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**Arafat and  
Hussein said  
deeply divided**

Jerusalem Post Staff  
The fourth round of talks in Amman yesterday between Jordan's King Hussein and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat reportedly ended with the two sides sharply divided, as Hussein upheld the American position for furthering Middle East peace efforts.

The Americans refuse the PLO's demand that in exchange for Palestinian recognition of UN Resolution 242 and its implicit recognition of Israel, the U.S. recognize the Palestinian position, which insists on recognition of their right to self-determination.

Although there were reports of acrimonious differences between the two sides, neither Hussein nor Arafat would make any comment about the substance of their talks.

Emerging from the meeting, Hussein said more talks would be held. A PLO official said later that those meetings might involve lower-ranking figures rather than the leaders themselves.

The talks followed long discussions which U.S. presidential envoy Richard Murphy had in London last week with Hussein and Prime Minister Pines.

Murphy told a congressional committee in Washington on Tuesday that his talks with the two Middle East leaders had made clear progress. Jordan wants all parties to the conflict, including the PLO and the five permanent members of the Security Council, to attend the proposed conference.

The U.S. supports Israel's position of refusing to recognize the PLO and insisting on direct talks between Jordan and Israel. But Washington and Jerusalem have recently softened their opposition to the idea of international talks.

One PLO source insisting on anonymity, said yesterday before the Hussein Arafat meeting that the Americans, relaying their views through the Jordanians, had rejected the self-determination proposal.

## Washington spurns Libyan olive branch

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — The White House yesterday brushed off Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi's reported offer to end terrorism acts in Europe if the U.S. promised not to attack his country.

"This seems to be another of Col. Gaddafi's public relations ploys," said White House spokesman Larry Speakes, who observed that Gaddafi was becoming "his own smoking gun" by publicly acknowledging "his role in terrorist acts."

"We're interested in deeds, not words," he said, adding that the U.S. would continue to monitor Libya's actions carefully.

Gaddafi's offer was reported on Tuesday by Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi.



The newly appointed OVC Central Command, Ahuf Eshel Barak, at the scene of yesterday's ambush near Meholin. (Rahamim Israeli)

## IAF hits 3 terror bases in Lebanon

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Israel Air Force jets early yesterday blasted three Palestinian terrorist headquarters near Sidon in the first air raid in that area since last year's Israeli withdrawal from the A'ail line.

The attack came only a few days after a senior military source told defense reporters that the terrorists were returning to the Sidon and Tyre area. The army also noted a recent increase in attempted attacks on Western Galilee.

A brief statement from the IDF identified yesterday's targets as a two-story building housing members of Ahmed Jibril's Popular Front

for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, and another two-story structure occupied by the Palestine Liberation Front, a small Syrian-backed group.

The targets were on the fringes of the Ein Hilweh and Mis-Mia refugee camps, a well-placed source told *The Jerusalem Post*. He said the attack was launched at 6:40 a.m. The IDF spokesman's report quoted the pilots as saying they had scored "good hits."

Reporters in Sidon said four low-flying jets had swooped in from the sea and fired rockets which had flattened one building and badly damaged the two others. Hospital

reports said one person had been killed and four injured, including one Lebanese.

Other planes had flown overhead as cover, the reports said.

The explosions had sent clouds of debris mushrooming over nearby banana and lemon groves, and booms had resounded in a Reuters correspondent in Sidon reported. At the scene of the attack, trees and electric pylons had been uprooted, he added.

The seven-minute raid caused panic among the 30,000 camp residents, and hundreds snatched children from their beds and fled towards central Sidon in pyjamas.

## Experts seek clues to Challenger tragedy

CAPE CANAVERAL (AP). —

Ships retrieved some of the wreckage of the space shuttle Challenger from the sea yesterday as investigators sought clues to an in-flight explosion that killed five men and two women and set back America's space programme.

An investigation team held its first meeting to start the long inquiry into why the \$1.2 billion shuttle, seemingly on a perfect course, blew apart 74 seconds after liftoff on Tuesday, raining fiery debris into the Atlantic ocean.

Jesse Moore, director of the shuttle programme, said yesterday that he had little hope that either the crew members or any large chunks of the craft would be located.

A Coast Guard officer, Lt. Cmdr. James Simpson, said the largest piece recovered was about 3 metres by 60 cms, but he did not know which part of the shuttle it came from.

Some experts who studied television tapes of the disaster said they thought the problem centred on the

external fuel tank, containing liquid hydrogen and oxygen.

Moore told a news conference he would not speculate on what had caused the disaster but said he was confident it would be found and corrected.

"Our job is to make sure we don't miss any evidence and to preserve it in as pristine a shape as possible," he said, adding that once the problem was corrected, "we intend to move ahead with the space programme."

William Graham, NASA's acting

(Continued on Page 7)

## 'Judy's religion was being an astronaut'

By WALTER RUBY

NEW YORK. — The father of Judith Resnik, the Jewish astronaut killed aboard the space shuttle Challenger, said yesterday that "while religion played no part in Judy's life and she resented being referred to as 'the Jewish astronaut,' there is no question that she felt Jewish and knew she was Jewish."

In a telephone interview from his home in Akron, Ohio, the town where Resnik was raised and cele-

brated her bat mitzva, Dr. Marvin Resnik, said: "Despite what happened yesterday, I feel that the space programme definitely should continue, and I know Judy would feel the same way. One little mistake or whatever it was that caused (the explosion) should not interfere with a programme that has produced such fantastic results" in the sciences.

Resnik, 36, became the first Jewish astronaut in May, 1984, when she

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## Sagan criticizes manned space flights

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The distinguished American astronomer Carl Sagan said yesterday that manned space flights by the great powers were basically politically motivated and could largely be replaced by space vehicles carrying robots.

Speaking to reporters at the Jerusalem Hilton, Sagan mourned the seven astronauts from the Challenger mission, saying they had been an outstanding crew, representing four

of the world's major religions. "Thus their deaths are a tragedy not just for the U.S. but also for the whole human species."

Sagan, professor of space sciences and astronomy at Cornell University in New York and known to TV audiences around the world for his *Cosmos* series, urged that the space programme not be abandoned. The

U.S. space effort had blossomed, he noted, after the tragic deaths of three American astronauts whose Apollo space capsule caught fire during a test in 1967.

Manned missions, though presenting special dangers, should go on in addition to unmanned missions, said Sagan.

Sagan urged a joint American-Soviet mission to Mars, which would cost much less than individual efforts and show the world that the two powers could work together.

More on Challenger  
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## White-collar crime up 96.4% in 1985

Last year saw a 96.4 per cent jump in the number of white-collar-crime investigations initiated by police, according to a report soon to be published by the Police Ministry.

Most of the increase involved bribery. Cases involving illegal possession of foreign currency and income tax evasion more than doubled from 1984 levels.

The report shows a 4.3 per cent rise in cases of murder, rape and possession of hard drugs, but the number of investigations into drug dealing decreased by 4.2 per cent. Investigations of crimes involving terrorism and armed robbery fell in 1985 by 8.4 per cent.

Of the 243,719 criminal investigations initiated by the police last year, 25.2 per cent ended in conviction — up 1.2 per cent over 1984.

## Egypt-U.S. ties endangered by the 'cold peace'

By WLADIMIR STRUMINSKI

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WEST BERLIN. — By maintaining only perfunctory relations with Israel, Egypt might very well endanger its relations with the U.S., Israeli sources indicated here yesterday.

"Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak is making a mistake in his relations with the U.S.," the Israeli sources said. By refusing to return its ambassador to Tel Aviv and to be more forthcoming on bilateral issues, the sources implied, Egypt ran the risk of eroding goodwill and financial support in the U.S. Congress.

Egypt is the largest recipient of U.S. foreign aid, after Israel. The Israeli sources suggested that it was quite feasible that the Americans would reduce the badly needed aid to Egypt as a way of showing its disapproval of Egypt's passive observation of its American-brokered peace treaty with Israel.

Premier Shimon Peres, speaking here at a dinner hosted by the West Berlin Journalists Association, cautioned Mubarak, saying: "The leaders of today, President Mubarak, King Hussein, responsible Palestinians have the opportunity... to bring peace to our war-torn lands... A failure to act now may prescribe conflict to yet another generation."

The time for peace in the Middle East may be running out, Peres said forcefully. "We believe that King Hussein is looking for a solution in

the service of his country and his people," Peres said. "To him and to the Palestinians, we can only say: 'Time does not stand still. Events do not await decisions. Should the call for peace remain unanswered, the moment of truth may be missed.'"

In a further summation of views as Peres's three-nation visit to Europe drew to a close last night, the sources said Israel believed the visit had improved the political balance in Europe on the Middle East issue. Europe had been leaning more and more towards the PLO over the years the sources said, but with this trip, a new balance had been created. Europe was now a more "friendly" place to Israel, they said.

The visit to Germany, which ended at midnight last night, was especially successful, according to the sources. They confirmed earlier reports by German officials that Peres and Chancellor Helmut Kohl had established a good personal relationship.

The sources added that "an understanding of Jewish and Israeli problems has improved since Kohl's visit to Israel two years ago." It was pointed out that Kohl had enabled an agreement in principle on a German-Israeli research foundation by releasing DM75 million from his own office's budget, when no other source of finance had been found in German government budget.

The sources also said that Peres had been approached by German industrialists interested in invest-

(Continued on back page)

## Mubarak meets Mitterrand

### An appeal to Europe

PARIS (Reuters). — Egyptian President Mubarak was to pursue efforts to convene a Middle East peace conference in private talks with President Francois Mitterrand yesterday.

The latest in a series of meetings between the two leaders, their 13th since Mitterrand took office in 1981, followed an appeal by Mubarak for active West European help in getting negotiations started between Israel and the Arabs.

In a speech to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on Tuesday,

Mubarak urged its 21 member states to set up a group to contact both sides and try to resolve issues blocking the proposed peace conference.

He added that Europe should follow up this initiative by participating in the conference to help prevent a "polarization of forces" which could wreck the negotiations.

But he insisted that the Palestine Liberation Organization should take part, in coordination with Arab states — a condition which Israel has rejected.

## U.S. budget cuts threaten \$10m. IAI sale to Marines

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Because of the Gramm-Rudman congressional budget cuts, Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI) is now in danger of losing a proposed \$10-12 million contract to sell mineplows to the U.S. Marine Corps.

IAI officials were informed recently that the contract for the mine-clearers, which are attached to the front of tanks, is endangered because of the most recent federal budget cuts forced on the Marines by the Gramm-Rudman law. The law is designed to reduce the massive federal deficit.

Negotiations for the deal with the Marines have lasted nearly three years. U.S. officials said all the arrangements had been virtually completed when the Gramm-Rudman law forced a re-evaluation.

U.S. and Israeli officials pointed out that the Marine Corps, as other branches of the U.S. armed services, was cutting back on procurement in many areas.

IAI officials had hoped that this initial sale to the Marine Corps would encourage other foreign nations to purchase the mineplows, which have been proved very effective.

In recent weeks, the IAI, in a joint venture with Tadiran, has announced the sale of a new generation of pilotless reconnaissance aircraft — known as remote-piloted vehicles (RPVs) — to the U.S. Navy. In addition, the U.S. Navy is expected to lease another 12 Kfir fighters for use during training exercises. Twelve Kfirs are already based at the Oceana Air Naval Station, Virginia, where they are used to simulate Soviet MiG-21s.

## More than 4,000 policemen protected Peres in Berlin

By WLADIMIR STRUMINSKI

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WEST BERLIN. — If Prime Minister Peres could move easily about this city yesterday chatting to local residents about poetry and politics, it was because he was buffered by a security operation whose dimension staggered even the most experienced police officials.

One German official put it this way: "More than 4,000 policemen are providing security for Peres. We are employing security measures more stringent than the usual highest level. In fact, we have created a new security level."

The security measures for Peres were even stricter than for France's President Mitterrand and American Secretary of State Shultz on their recent visits to West Berlin, the official said.

They will have been heavily armed policemen cordoned off every spot on Peres's route. Whole units lined the streets and squares. In addition, German plainclothes security men prowled the route, as did their Israeli counterparts.

Peres's visit took place on the eve of the 50th

anniversary of the Nazi seizure of power, which they celebrated in many ways.

On this occasion, however, Peres did not confine himself to the Nazi era. Rather, speaking at a ceremony in the West Berlin City Hall, he pointed out that the city's presidents, Chaim Weizmann, Menachem Begin, Zvi and Zalman Shazar, had studied in Berlin, a city which had contributed much to European culture, and to whose development the Jews, too, had contributed to much.

West Berlin's governing mayor, Eberhard Diepgen, took care not to relate not only to the past, but to the future, and specifically planned scientific cooperation between Germany and Israel.

In the West Berlin Jewish Community Centre Peres laid a wreath commemorating the Jewish victims of the Nazis and listened to a cantor's *El maleh rachamim* prayer and to *kaddish*. Then he visited Moetzensee, where anti-Hitler conspirators in the German army were executed in 1944.

History and future met again in the Reichstag, where the pre-war Weimar democracy died at the hands of the Nazis.

Today, the Reichstag is used for meetings by the parliamentary groups who come here from the Bonn Bundestag to stress West Berlin's link to today's West German democracy. The Reichstag is located just on the western side of the Berlin Wall, behind which the Communist empire starts.

For Peres, however, the past did not end at the Berlin Wall. Meeting with a group of German pupils in the Reichstag, he took East Germany to task for trying to ignore responsibility for the Nazi past. He also scolded the Communist German state for aiding people who endanger the security of Israel.

Right there, at the border between the East and the West, the past and the present, Peres also tried to explain the Middle East conflict to the young Germans from the angle of Jewish tradition. With the Jews, he said, in the final judgment morality prevailed. The Jews did not want to dominate the Palestinians, Peres assured the young people.

Speaking on the past and the present, Peres told the young Germans about his grandfather, who had been murdered by the Nazis, his father, who was a prisoner of war, and his son,

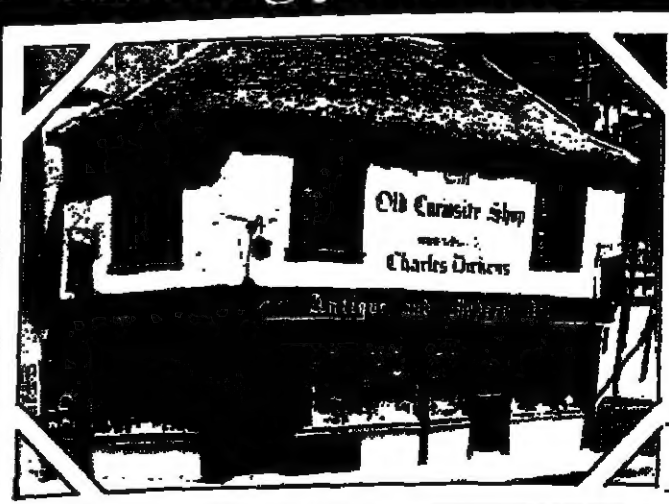
who serves in the army, out of the necessity to fight for the state's existence.

In an effort which might have been lost on young Germans used to the mass media picturing Israel as a brutish military power, Peres tried to convey to them the message that in the Middle East conflict Israel, rather than the Arabs, was the underdog. His greatest personal wish was to bring peace to the Middle East, he added.

But he did capture his young audience's imagination on the topic of literature. Peres spoke with equal ease about the writings of Heinrich Heine and Gunter Grass, and about a meeting between Tolstoy and a rabbi, and he quoted Martin Buber. Relaxed in a way uncharacteristic during this trip, Peres even told the young Germans about his own poetry: "It is terrible, I do not recommend it to anyone," he said, beaming.

Hardly surprisingly, the pupils brought up anti-Semitism. Peres was clear-cut: Anti-Semitism, he said, was more of a German problem than a Jewish one. He was afraid not of anti-Semites, but of the forces behind them, he said.

## Renting your shop?



Hurry! There are only a few hours left to place your classified advertisement for tomorrow's *Halukah Hehadash*. Just take your ad to any advertising agency, or to an office of Ma'ariv or Ha'aretz (or call 03-4393800) and it will run in Hebrew in those papers. Hand it in early enough to make sure it reaches the office of *Halukah Hehadash* before 4 p.m. and your ad will also appear in English in *The Jerusalem Post*. Beat that deadline!



## The weather at major Swissair destinations

	29.1.86	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	1	24	41	Clear
BRUSSELS	1	23	40	Clear
CHICAGO	1	22	39	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	1	22	39	Clear
FRANKFURT	1	22	39	Clear
GENEVA	1	22	39	Clear
HELSINKI	1	22	39	Clear
HONG KONG	1	22	39	Clear
JERUSALEM	1	22	39	Clear
LONDON	1	22	39	Clear
MADRID	1	22	39	Clear
MONTREAL	1	22	39	Clear
NEW YORK	1	22	39	Clear
OSLO	1	22	39	Clear
PARIS	1	22	39	Clear
RIO DE JANEIRO	1	22	39	Clear
SAO PAULO	1	22	39	Clear
STOCKHOLM	1	22	39	Clear
TOKYO	1	22	39	Clear
TORONTO	1	22	39	Clear
VIENNA	1	22	39	Clear
ZURICH	1	22	39	Clear

\*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.  
Offices in Israel:  
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Haifa: 2 Sina Road, (04) 384655  
Beer Sheva: 36 Ha Avot St. (05) 35262

## THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy - cloudy, with a possibility of rain in the north and central regions.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Min
Jerusalem	55	6-15	12
Golan	60	7-14	11
Safed	69	7-12	9
Haifa Port	74	13-18	16
Tiberias	53	15-19	17
Nazareth	62	9-17	14
Afula	62	4-19	16
Sharon	49	6-16	13
Tel Aviv	73	11-18	16
B-G Airport	66	8-17	16
Jericho	46	7-22	19
Gaza	71	10-18	17
Beer Sheva	55	6-18	17
Elat	37	10-24	22

## SOCIAL & PERSONAL

President Chaim Herzog yesterday received the president of the Board of Deputies of British Jewry Dr. Lionel Lopowitz, as well as Eric Moonman, Victor Kukas and Hayim Pinnor, all here for the World Jewish Congress plenary.

Herzog also received the letters of credence from two new ambassadors, James Karl Bartleman of Canada, and Sailosi Wai of Fiji (non-resident), in separate ceremonies.

Delegates to the World Wizo Conference yesterday visited the Circassian village Rehania to dedicate a women's club honouring Freddy Mark, President of Dutch Wizo, who was present for the occasion.

Minister without Portfolio Moshe Arens will speak, in English, at Rotary's ladies luncheon in the Tel Aviv Hilton Hotel at 1.15 p.m. today.

## Admor not wanted in Galilee town

By HAIM SHAPIRO  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The pretender to the vacant chair of the Bratslav rebbe was told this week, in no uncertain terms, that he was not wanted in Yavneel in Galilee.

Rabbi Shlomo Schick is known by his followers as the *admor* (hassidic rebbe) of Bratslav, although by tradition these hassidim have had no rebbe since the death of their founder, Reb Nachman, in the early nineteenth century.

Last week, Schick, whose following is made up primarily of newly-religious Sephardi Jews, came to Yavneel and announced his intention of setting up a yeshiva and diamond polishing plant in the small community, which was founded in 1907 by Zionist pioneers from Russia.

This week, Yavneel's local council voted seven to one, with one abstention, to keep Schick out.

"A community which was founded on the principles of Zionism cannot allow someone who is anti-Zionist and anti-Israel to set up a major institution in its midst," Ezra Muallem, the council chairman told *The Jerusalem Post*.

Schick is said to be returning to his headquarters in Brooklyn, to plan a mass pilgrimage to Ouman, the burial place of Reb Nachman, in the Soviet Union.

## Uruguay and Israel to step up co-operation

Jerusalem Post Reporter  
TEL AVIV.

Israel and Uruguay decided yesterday to establish joint development projects in Uruguay using third-party - probably American - financing, officials in Jerusalem said.

The decision was taken at a meeting in Jerusalem between Vice Prime Minister Shamir and Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias, who is on a short visit to Israel. It was also decided that Uruguayan President Julio Sangueretti would visit Israel this summer.

## HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

# Hard times for shop owners near Beit Hadassah

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HEBRON. - The shop owners, speaking to a group of visiting Knesset Members from behind barriers of stone-filled barrels and high wire-mesh fences, said that business was dead.

Their problem is that their shops are below the newly-built sections of Beit Hadassah, the centre of Jewish settler activity in the heart of Hebron. Business died when the army took measures to protect the settlers. Custer scared away.

Access to the mine stores is via a path, and a search by soldiers at the From time to time the soldiers come in the shops, the businessmen say. So they go elsewhere.

According to Mustafa Natshe, the posed mayor, who accompanied the Rights Movement MKs here, a large depend for their livelihoods on these authorities had decided they could evict the owners, who have been here 50 years, so they were trying to get a legal obstacle by putting the squeeze on owners, he alleged.

The businessmen say they are afraid Somebody in authority - it was not clear had suggested that they move away, but men said he feared the consequences: nians threaten to impose capital punishment.

any West Bank Arab who sells property to Jews. So the shop owners are in a bind.

The MKs then turned to Aluf-Mishne (Colonel) Ya'akov Or. the IDF commander of Judea and Samaria. Or said the recent measures had been introduced for fear that terrorists would plant a bomb in one of the shops and blow up the entire building.

including two re- and Mordechai Bar- assessment at face a carbomb outside." why we narrowed the

ans - which have still build a multi-storied an entrance of Beit go the authorities demolitions there.

tour, accompanied by chpela Cave where - nights - the army has ugs to facilitate Jewish

s. Jews have prayed in on Friday nights they cent yard. But because es were looking for a Cave is the traditional iarchs and matriarchs. Azam el-Khatib, the

local Walf (Moslem Trust) director, had suggested that they use an adjacent room named after Joseph. It is a long and narrow room and should be ample, El-Khatib believes. But the authorities rejected it; and the settlers now pray in the large hall named after Isaac and Rebecca.

MK Yossi Sarid later questioned a major who said that the army wanted another room for the Jews because it was too cold to pray outside. He assured Sarid that when the weather becomes warm, the Jews will pray outside again.

The MKs were sceptical. Some said that when more settlers move to Hebron, they will need a bigger synagogue all year round.

The visit passed without incident, but one settler, Avinoam Hurvitz, shouted at the MKs: "Where were you after the six were murdered? You are encouraging murder." (Six settlers were killed by terrorists near Beit Hadassah in 1980.)

MK Shulamit Aloni replied sarcastically that after that murder "we ran abroad." Ran Cohen said he had been called for reserve service. "to protect you - just get the hell out of here, and there won't be any murder," he added. Soldiers pulled Hurvitz away.

Before leaving Hebron, the MKs said that next week they would raise the matter with Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin and take it up in the Knesset. "It's a pity," Sarid commented. "The government wants to make peace. Shimon Peres makes a step forward in London and in Bonn - but at Beit Hadassah he takes a step back."

the centres of terrorist infection and stabilization," which threaten the East Bloc countries as well as the West.

The second challenge is "victory against terrorism... a nihilistic terrorism, which follows the rules of darkest fanaticism, moved by intolerance, opposing the models of lay civilization that inspire our societies." Spadolini expressed hope that all Soviet Jews who wished to do so would eventually be permitted to come to Israel.

The Italian defence minister called for a "far-sighted attitude" by Israel regarding peace with the Arab neighbours. "We want the doors of negotiations between Israel and Jordan to be wide open, following the example of the peace agreement between Israel and Egypt at Camp David, now completed with the

accord for Taba. We also want that, within these negotiations, the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to a homeland be fulfilled, together with contextual guarantees for Israel's security."

Landau recommendations, in an effort to prevent the report being shelved, as had been done with previous reports.

Tsur said that American Jewry was undergoing an ideological change towards the Zionist movement and aliya, and that this was true of Orthodox Jews no less than Reform and Conservative Jews. American Jewry had a sense of its own strength, and there was "an ever-growing illusion of an eternal Diaspora, if not Babylonia-and-Jerusalem," he said.

The minister said that there were no more than 50,000 ex-Americans living in Israel, and that 30 to 40 per cent of all immigrants from the West returned to their former countries.

North America had 277 emissaries, Tsur said. In 1985, there were 2,500 immigrants from there, one third whom had not come through emissary channels.

"It is important to carry out the recommendations (all at once) to shake up the system," Tsur said. The Jewish Agency, instead of serving as a bridge between Israel and the Diaspora, had become a bureaucratic wall between the two, he said.

He said the Landau Report had revealed the need for a radical reform. At the very least, he said, there must be a clear division of responsibility and authority: encouragement of aliya by the agency, and absorption by the ministry from the moment the immigrant arrives.

The minister called on the Knesset to exert its full weight behind the

TEL AVIV. - Hapoel Tel Aviv got a spectacular 46 points from captain Mike Largey and 27 points from Jack Zimmerman to more than offset the 46-point effort of Pedrag Benacek, and gain a hard-fought home court 110-107 victory against Bosnia Sarajevo.

The quarter-final Korach Cup match gave the Tel Aviv basketball team sweet revenge for a loss to Bosnia Sarajevo in Yugoslavia earlier this month.

Tomorrow, Friday, January 31, 1986, Thirty days after the passing of our dear friend

## JOSEPH L. KLARMAN

Disciple and aide of Zeev Jabotinsky  
We shall pay our respects at his grave at Nahlat Yitzhak, Tel Aviv, at 12 noon.

On Thursday, Feb. 6, 1986, at 8 p.m. there will be a MEMORIAL EVENING at Beit Jabotinsky, 38 King George Street, Tel Aviv

The Family  
World Executive of Herut-Hatzohar  
Merkaz Trust HaHerut  
Executive, World Zionist Organization  
Betar, Haniha Olanit  
Betar Youth Towns  
Miklat Jabotinsky  
Veterans of the Jabotinsky Movement

Ramaz Alumni in Israel  
mourn the passing of

## Dr. BENJAMIN BRICKMAN

distinguished American Educator.  
Sincere condolences to the family in Israel and abroad.

Nina and Walter Zanger deeply mourn the untimely death of their friend.

## YOHANAN ELDAD

and extend their condolences to Hana, Miriam and Michael.

We share the grief of our colleague ITZHAK VOGEL on the death of his Father and extend condolences to him and his family.

Paz Oil Co. Ltd.  
Management and Staff

With great sorrow we announce the death of YOHANAN ELDAD The Family  
Shiva at 5 Ariel Street, Jerusalem, Tel. 526507.



Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, Rav-Aluf Moshe Levy and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin at yesterday's tree-planting ceremony. (Asha Dvishman)

## IDF Forest is inaugurated

Jerusalem Post Reporter  
Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin and the Chief of Staff Moshe Levy yesterday planted the first saplings of the Israel Defence Forces Forest located on a partially cleared former Jordanian minefield near Jerusalem; the forest is to have some 25,000 trees, mostly stone pine. It is situated on a slope west of the Mar Elias Monastery near the road linking Jerusalem's Talpiot and Gilo neighborhoods and is to be part of the planned green belt around the capital, said Moshe Rivlin, chairman of the Jewish National Fund's directorate.

Most of the site has been cleared of mines, but some sectors, that have proved too difficult to clear are still fenced off.

Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek reminded Levy, who sat next to him during the ceremony, that he had helped clear the area a year ago. "So now you want us to complete the job," Levy reportedly responded.

The trees are expected to be mature enough in about 12 years for park facilities to be installed. An observation post is planned near a former bunker on a hilltop offering a view of the capital, Bethlehem and the Judean desert.

## Mapam poll: Majority wants peace talks

By LEA LEVAVI  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. - Two-thirds of the public favour negotiations with any Palestinian organization which will renounce terrorism and recognize Israel, according to a survey commissioned by Mapam from the Dahaf Research Institute. Results were reported by Mapam secretary-general Elazar Granot MK at a press conference here yesterday.

When a similar poll was taken in 1981, 45 per cent had given this answer, Granot said, adding that he was sure it would be even higher should the question cease to be hypothetical. Even when the PLO was mentioned as a possible negotiating partner, 51 per cent agreed to talks, he said.

The survey also showed that 87 per cent of the public considered the economic programme unjust. "I recommend that Peres demonstrate his leadership ability on the peace front," Granot said, "because on the economic front he has already failed."

## Attempts to patch up Likud merger go on into the night

By SARAH HONIG  
Post Political Correspondent

TEL AVIV. - Deputy Premier David Levy (Herut) was still attempting to iron out the remaining differences with the Liberal Party last night and prevent a decision by the Liberal council today to split the Likud Knesset faction. Levy believed he would succeed. The Liberal leaders doubted it.

The Liberal presidents gathered in Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda's home to decide on whether to split up the Likud Knesset faction or to give Herut another extension to effect a merger between the parties.

Political observers were agreed that even if the Liberal leaders recommended a split, that split should not be regarded as final. Observers believe it is quite likely that for a while there will be, ostensibly, an independent Liberal Knesset faction, but that once a deal is worked out between the two Likud components, the Likud faction would again be united. Thus, even if the Liberal council approves a split at its Kfar Hamaacaba meeting this afternoon, talks between the parties are likely to continue.

Discussing internal Herut politics, Levy yesterday denied that he had ever made alliances with other contenders for party leadership. "There were alliances against me, but people are beginning to see that they cannot stand together on all issues, and in the end it's every man for himself."

In deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved wife, mother, grandmother and aunt

## HAYA GREENBLATT

David Greenblatt, Nahariya  
Yehuda and Hava Granit  
Shai, Tali and Barak  
Shua Mizrahi  
Etha and Erwin Frenkel

The funeral will take place today, January 30, 1986, at 2 p.m. in Nahariya.

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing in New York City of

## Dr. NATHAN MOROS

Chairman of the Board of Directors  
and extend our sincere condolences to the Moros and Levitt families

Management and Staff  
Taro Vit Industries Ltd.  
Taro Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd.

We share the grief of our colleague ITZHAK VOGEL on the death of his Father and extend condolences to him and his family.

Paz Oil Co. Ltd.  
Management and Staff

With great sorrow we announce the death of YOHANAN ELDAD The Family  
Shiva at 5 Ariel Street, Jerusalem, Tel. 526507.

## U.S. official: Jews

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A U.S. State Department official yesterday urged the World Jewish Congress to continue to exert political pressure on behalf of Soviet Jewry.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East European Affairs R. Mark Palmer said the Soviet Union "must come to understand that cosmetic gestures cannot quiet political gestures" on the Soviet Jewry issue.

One difficulty, Palmer told the WJC's 50th-anniversary assembly in Jerusalem, was the Soviet view that they had not been sufficiently rewarded for permitting large numbers of Jews to emigrate in the 1970s. Today, however, "they know that no progress can be made on trade unless there is parallel progress on human rights," he said.

## Shipyard workers road after m

By DAVID RUDGE  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. - Israel Shipyard workers blocked the road outside the yard for more than an hour yesterday following a protest rally at which staff committees from all over Haifa had pledged support for their struggle to keep the yard open and save their jobs.

But the shipyard men, insisting on action not words, decided to take matters into their hands and barricaded the road with a semi-trailer, refusing repeated police requests to move, until reinforcements of Border Police arrived at the scene.

Haifa Labour Council secretary Moshe Werman found his way barred by the workers when he tried to leave the yard. They let him go only after receiving an assurance that the Council would call a city-wide strike as it had originally promised.

Earlier, staff committee leaders stressed that the yard's fight was a shared fight. Other Haifa region factories were also under threat of closure and dismissals were the order of the day everywhere, they

the Jerusalem Post, however, that a police guard would be stationed at every branch.

A surge in the number of welfare applicants in October and November led to the work dispute.

The NIT's director of long-term pension planning, Shlomo Cohen, said clerks dealt with some 5,000 welfare applicants in January, compared to 6,000 in December and some 9,000 in each of the two preceding months.

## Work dispute shuts all NIT branches

Jerusalem Post Reporter

National Insurance Institute branches will be closed today as workers strike to protest against what they see as insufficient manpower and lack of security measures.

The staff committee is demanding more clerks and a policeman at each branch to protect them from irate welfare applicants.

Negotiations between the committee and the administration over extra staff remained deadlocked yesterday. The NIT spokesman told

United Israel Appeal - Keren Hayesod, Jerusalem and Jewish leadership throughout the English-speaking world

mourn the passing of

## Rabbi MORTON MAYER BERMAN

a great American Zionist leader and devoted volunteer worker of Keren Hayesod for many years.

The Bereaved:  
His wife: Erna Kalman  
and the whole family, here and abroad

In deep sorrow, we announce the death of our dear

## ANDREI (Bandi) KALMAN

The funeral will take place today, Thursday, January 30, 1986, at 11 a.m. at Holon Cemetery.

Transport will be available from the deceased's home, 96 Hayarkon St., Tel Aviv, at 10 a.m.



## Just don't bother to renew your Australian passport

By GREER FAY CASHMAN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

If your Australian passport has not yet expired, don't do anything about renewing it. This was the only clear message that emerged from a public meeting between Australian Embassy officials and Australians living in Israel.

In previous years, the hundreds of Australians who flocked to Jerusalem on Australia Day were motivated by nostalgia and a sense of camaraderie. But this year's Australia Day celebrations were marred by confusion and worry. Close to 100 Australian olim have lost their Australian citizenship. A similar fate is expected by some 2,000 of the estimated 7,000 Australian Jews who live in this country, as a result of a November 1984 amendment to the Australian Citizenship Act.

The Jerusalem Post last month published a series of articles on the amendment and its effects, and the matter subsequently received wide coverage in the Australian press.

The extensive media exposure may have expedited a further amendment to the Australian Citizenship Act, which will be brought before parliament when it convenes for the autumn session in April. Zionist Federation and senior Australian Embassy officials believe the new amendment would make it easier for Australians who have lost their citizenship to receive immigration visas to Australia for the purpose of acquiring naturalized Australian citizenship.

It is unlikely that confiscated passports will simply be returned to their owners. Australian Ambassador Robert Merrilees indicated that Australians who have lost their citizenship will be able to get it back by recommitting themselves to Australia and living there for a certain period of time. This means that such Australians will have an easier time being "naturalized" than non-Australians.

Although Australia enacted legislation in 1948 which outlawed dual citizenship for anyone who was an Australian first, enforcement of that law was arbitrary and inconsistent. Over the past 20 years, according to Jerusalem jurist Zvi Ehrenberg, Australian Jews who made aliyah had their passports renewed by Australian consular staff, which created the impression that they could legally hold dual citizenship.

Under the November 1984 Act, a person ceases to be an Australian citizen upon committing any act "the sole and dominant purpose of which is to acquire the nationality and citizenship of another country." Applying for an immigration visa to Israel or for a certificate of aliyah is interpreted by the Australian authorities as an act "the sole and dominant purpose of which" is to acquire Israeli nationality.

Ehrenberg argues that nationality is not the sole and dominant purpose of such an act. Emphasizing that Jews are not permitted to remain in Israel indefinitely on tourist or temporary resident visas, Ehrenberg said that many of those who applied for aliyah certificates only did so in order to be able to remain here.

Merrilees confessed that there are still no guidelines for the interpretation and application of "sole and dominant purpose." "We won't know until they get a test case in Canberra," he said.

Meanwhile, anyone who applied for an aliyah certificate in Israel prior to November 1984, is guilty of infringement of the Australian Citizenship Act and is at the mercy of the erratic bureaucratic process. Some Australians who went back to Australia, and admitted to holding Israeli citizenship when applying for new passports, were issued with Australian passports without any problems. On the other hand, growing numbers of Australians who applied for a new passport at the Australian Embassy in Tel Aviv have had their old passports confiscated and have been informed that they are no longer Australian citizens.

Australian Consul John Murphy strongly denied that there is a witch-hunt on for Australians with Israeli citizenship. The danger lies in the "come into my parlour said the spider to the fly" syndrome. Once an Australian whose citizenship is in jeopardy presents a current passport at the Australian Embassy, it might be appropriated.

Close to 10 per cent of Australia's Jews have made aliyah. Without explicit information on the effects of new citizenship legislation, potential Australian olim may think twice about their commitment to Zionist ideology. The projected figures for Australian aliyah in 1986 show a downward trend.

### Bargain flights

**MITZPE RAMON.** - Regular air services between Tel Aviv and Mitzpe Ramon in the Negev have been resumed by the Shahaf company, a spokesman for the local council here reported, yesterday. The flights take 45 minutes and the planes can accommodate three people at a time.

To introduce the flight, Shahaf offered residents here the first 400 tickets at a price similar to the bus fare.

### Benvenisti report on West Bank:

## The territories are being steadily absorbed

The administered territories continue to move inexorably toward full absorption by Israel, according to Meron Benvenisti, director of the West Bank Data Base project.

Benvenisti, who presented a report on West Bank developments in 1984-85 at a press conference in Jerusalem yesterday, said the facts give the lie to proclamations by the national unity government of a "new era" for the territories.

Despite talk to the contrary, said Benvenisti, "it's been business as usual" in the West Bank.

The report is dedicated to Aziz Shehade, the recently murdered Ramallah attorney. Benvenisti noted that the rate of population growth in the territories had increased in the period studied because of a drop in net emigration to about 3,000 people annually combined with a high and growing rate of natural increase. By the end of 1984, the population of the West Bank was 787,000 - 32 per cent more than in 1967.

Probably the main reason for the fall in net emigration has been the

reduced demand for foreign workers in the Gulf States and other Arab countries. Meanwhile, the West Bank recorded one of its highest rates of natural increase in 1984: 31 per 1,000.

Demographic trends, said Benvenisti, had brought about a steady growth in the Arab population in former Mandatory Palestine. The Jewish majority had dropped steadily, from 65 per cent in 1969 to 63 per cent in 1984.

He predicted that this majority would decline to about 58 per cent by the year 2000.

In the economic sector, Benvenisti noted a continuing decline in Palestinian agriculture and a stagnation in industry. Of a work-force of 154,100 in 1984, about one-third were working in Israel and the remainder in the West Bank and abroad. Dependence on sources of income outside the territories had significantly increased, he said.

Benvenisti noted that by April 1985, Israeli authorities had gained control over 52 per cent of the land in the West Bank. Of this, 1.7 million

dunams, or 41 per cent of the total, were under direct Israeli control, while the use of another 11 per cent, or about 300,000 dunams, was "severely restricted."

The pace of Jewish settlement, Benvenisti said, had slowed down. In 1984-85, the number of settlers had grown by 9,400 to 52,000, about 6,000 less than the previous year's growth. Most of the increase has been confined to the 15 settlements around Jerusalem and in the north-east part of the Tel Aviv metropolitan area.

These settlements, said Benvenisti, were the only viable ones among the more than 100 in the West Bank. Though the establishment of new settlements had been virtually halted under the national unity government, construction and settlement was continuing in the existing urban settlements, he noted.

Benvenisti pointed out that the Israeli occupation had been economically beneficial to Israel, providing a protected market for local goods and a pool of cheap labour. In addition, Israel collected some \$50m. annually in value-added taxes

on made-in-Israel goods sold in the territories and from the duties paid on imports passing through Israeli ports.

Government enforcement policies in the West Bank were harsher under the national unity government, said Benvenisti. Strong-arm tactics, such as deportation, the demolition and sealing of homes and administrative detention, had proliferated. These tactics, he said, were "more coercive" than the "notorious iron fist" policy of former Chief of General Staff Rafael Eitan. But there had been less public outrage over them, he said, because they had not been accompanied by racist outpourings.

The national unity government had no clear-cut ideology toward the West Bank, said Benvenisti, and the continuation of past trends manifested what he called "the bankruptcy of pragmatism." The only difference between Labour and the Likud, he said, was that Labour was an occupier with a "bad conscience," whereas the Likud was an occupier with a "clear conscience."

## 'Arafat applies brakes as Hussein speeds up,' MK Linn tells officers

By ASHER WALLFISH  
Post Knesset Correspondent

PLO chairman Yasser Arafat aims to postpone the possibility of negotiations between Israel, Jordan and the Palestine Arabs at least until the premiership of Israel switches hands this autumn, according to a Knesset Member who specializes in Arab affairs.

Amnon Linn, who heads a sub-committee of the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee concerned with the administered areas, said this week that Arafat believed "the Arab world will reunite once Yitzhak Shamir is prime minister, and will once again make Arafat its favourite son."

Linn, who was lecturing to IDF officers visiting the Knesset, said: "Arafat's interest in slowing things down is certainly matched by King Hussein's interest in speeding things up, although the king may be hampered by other considerations, and is thus unable to take the plunge."

Linn noted that the king was keen to get American weaponry, which he could not do without taking steps towards talks with Israel.

"Hussein is also coming under increasing pressure from his sympathizers on the West Bank. For the past few weeks individuals and groups close to government circles in Amman have been crossing the Allenby bridge and lobbying intensively with the message that the last opportunity must not be thrown away, Linn said.

He said the pro-Jordan elements on the West Bank were trying to persuade Hussein to act before the

rotation in the national unity government which will make Yitzhak Shamir premier in place of Shimon Peres.

"They would prefer to see the king and Arafat make a deal to enable talks with Israel," Linn said. "If that does not work out, they want a joint Jordan-Palestine delegation with Palestinians from the West Bank and the entire Palestinian diaspora, who are not identified with the PLO. But what they do not want is indecision, which will permit Israel to extend its full control."

"King Hussein considers himself responsible for the welfare of the West Bank Arabs, which should mean he won't leave them to stew in their own juice. If the king refuses to talk to Israel, he thereby disowns his responsibility."

Linn said that the possibility of negotiations between Israel and Hussein, accompanied by Palestine Arabs who reject terror, "will precipitate the formation of a Knesset majority dedicated to seeking a compromise formula for the West Bank."

Linn said there were West Bank Arabs who envisaged Syrian President Hafez Assad giving King Hussein the go-ahead to talk to Israel, because of Assad's anger against Arafat.

He had also heard the suggestion that Assad would not be unhappy to see Hussein over-reaching himself and failing to set up serious negotiations with Israel, so that Syria could announce to the Arab world: "I told you so."



The last British soldier to leave, Lt. Gen. Gordon MacMillan, extreme left, sails from Haifa.

## MacMillan, last GOC Palestine, dies aged 89 in car crash

By RON JOURARD  
Gen. Sir Gordon MacMillan, the last commander of British troops in Mandatory Palestine, has died at age 89. He was killed in a car crash on January 21.

MacMillan was appointed GOC (General Officer Commanding), Palestine in February 1947, the month in which Great Britain decided to entrust the question of Palestine's future to the United Nations.

Previously, MacMillan - born in 1897 at Bangalore, India - had distinguished himself in World War II. As GOC Palestine, he replaced Gen. Ernest Barker. Barker had become unpopular among the Jews of the Yishuv for his remark that one should hit the Jews "in the pocket - where it hurt them most," and this

was one of the reasons for his transfer.

MacMillan's main task soon after his arrival was the evacuation of close to 100,000 British troops and their stores, including vast quantities of weapons and equipment.

According to historian Netanel Lerch, of Jerusalem, author of *Edge of the Sword*, in the 1948 War of Independence, MacMillan carried out his responsibilities as "an officer and a gentleman." Against the background of British opposition to the UN Partition Resolution and the tense and sometimes hostile relations between the British forces and the Jews, MacMillan's behaviour was what one would expect of a professional soldier, says Lerch.

In one incident in early 1948, MacMillan ordered Gen. Glubb Pasha, commander of the Arab Legion of Trans-Jordan, to intervene to save the passengers of a Jewish armoured car ambushed in Shu'afat, north of Jerusalem, on the road to Neve Ya'acov.

However, he incurred the anger of the military arm of the Yishuv, the Hagana, when he ordered their forces to evacuate Sheikh Jarrah, in East Jerusalem. The Hagana refused to budge, and only left after British tanks had opened fire on them.

The order to leave Sheikh Jarrah was intended to secure the evacuation route of British High Commissioner Gen. Sir Alan Cunningham from Jerusalem to the Kalandiyah Airport (today Atarot), where he was to board a plane for Haifa.

MacMillan's main concern was how to implement the evacuation with the least casualties and material losses, says Lerch.

MacMillan had frequent contacts with the Jewish Agency, primarily from the beginning of 1948, through the offices of a young liaison officer - today president - Chaim Herzog.

The GOC had several narrow escapes himself. *The Times* wrote in an obituary last week. On one occasion, a grenade exploded in Jerusalem's Rehov Hanefi in only minutes after his staff car had passed. On another occasion his car was blown up by a remote-controlled mine and raked with sniper fire. But MacMillan was not in it. On several other occasions, too, he came under fire.

When the Mandate ended in May 1948, MacMillan was the last British soldier to leave.

## Automation in branches would redesign transactions

THE CHANGING FACE OF HIGH-STREET BANKING - III By Pinhas Landau

I have seen the future - or at least one version of what the future of banking might be - and it is very interesting. Whether it works or not, no one can yet say, but this is what it looks like:

The system, which entails a complete redesign of the bank branch as we know it, is being tested by Bank Discount at a new branch in Ramat Aviv/Akfa, on the northern outskirts of Tel Aviv, chosen for the high level of education and openness to technological innovation among its customers.

The outer section of the branch, which Discount calls the "satellite," is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Customers gain entrance by inserting a plastic card into a device that opens an electronic door.

In the satellite, the customers can perform most of their regular banking on a self-service basis, drawing cash from an automated teller, depositing or withdrawing money into and out of Tapas and Pakam accounts and receiving statements. An electronic mail service now being introduced will also provide information on transactions and balances. Other transactions, such as in securities and foreign currency, can be carried out by phone in the satellite.

The net result is that customers need not enter the bank proper except for more complicated services, such as taking out loans or setting up foreign currency forward transactions through head office's dealing room.

Inside, the branch operates rather differently from the accepted pattern. The small staff of a manager, deputy manager and three other personnel have no individual tasks as such - they all do everything, from depositing cheques to buying and selling foreign currency to filling out loan applications to advising on investments. Each staff-member works in a self-contained area with a terminal linked to the bank's central computer.

Down the road - but not that much further - Discount envisages bank-at-home service. The technology is ready and waiting; only 3 legal obstacles remain. With home banking, a visit to the branch would only be necessary for sophisticated or personal services. To operate a high-tech bank like this the personnel have to be far better and more broadly trained than today's average bank clerk. Indeed, at Discount's experimental Akfa branch the staff have all acquired a thorough knowledge of most departments. The manager, Yitzhak Hacohen, is a good

example of the new generation of junior managers now moving up in the financial and industrial sectors. Educated, articulate and knowledgeable, he is a far cry from the older generation of managers, many of whom obtained their posts by long service rather than merit. As part of the experiment, Hacohen was allowed to hand-pick his staff. Detailed brainstorming sessions preceded the branch's opening.

But the achievements of Hacohen and his staff will not alone determine the success of the system they are testing. There are alternatives, and there is no guarantee that Discount's approach will win.

One thing is certain: machines are not the whole answer. People are going to remain important, perhaps even more than before.

Hence Bank Hapoalim's rather different approach, based on the wide-scale introduction of a whole range of innovations to as many branches as possible.

On the other hand, good staff with good technology will not go very far, and the consensus is that Hapoalim has made a costly mistake in having each branch operate as a separate unit or as part of a cluster of

local branches, without direct links to a central computer.

Hapoalim is circumventing this problem, at least partially, by boosting the capability of its external ATMs, which are set in its branches' outside walls. Hapoalim's aims are to offer more services than those in most European countries. Bank Leumi has taken this approach even further: its machines provide almost all the services offered by Discount's satellite, but outside the branch office and 24 hours a day.

It took years of wasted investment in duplicated efforts before the banks agreed to cooperate on their ATM systems for cash withdrawals. The process seems to be repeating itself with the development of computerized data buses that would permit home banking. The trends in technology may be very clear-cut but tactics are still very different. It will be interesting to see which approach triumphs.

In this area, unlike many others, Israeli banks are among the most advanced in the world, and they will have to solve their own problems rather than rely on copying others.

(The last of the series.)

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### Loneliness and Love at Boys Town

Memories are the hardest thing 15-year old Avraham Malessa, rescued from Ethiopia, has to deal with. Memories of his father, mother and two brothers whom he left behind, probably never to see again, when he immigrated to Israel. What helps most is the love he has received since becoming a student at Boys Town Jerusalem. Love from teachers, counsellors and the boys themselves - like Yaniv from Ashdod, his dormitory roommate.

(Communicated)



10



Haifa

# A TASTE OF ISRAEL

By PHILIP GILLON  
Jerusalem Post Reporter



'The biggest surprise was finding that Israelis are very like Americans' (Philip Gillon)

WHEN URI GORDON, the head of Youth Aliya, proposed that Project Discovery - the Youth Aliya programme that brings high school youngsters to Israel for a year of schooling - should be opened to Americans on a large scale, he encountered considerable opposition in the U.S., even from friends of Youth Aliya.

The critics objected that such a programme might be ideal for children from other countries, but that circumstances in the U.S. made it unsuitable for Americans. They said that parents would never agree to their children going so far from home for a year at their most impressionable ages, 16 or 17. Furthermore, grades 10, 11 and 12 are crucial to students seeking admission to university or a scholarship. Participation in a summer programme in Israel, going to Israel for a year of study after graduation, or attending an Israeli university would better provide American Jewish sons and daughters with a deep understanding and affection for Israel, critics said.

Gordon conceded that these were very cogent arguments, but he stuck to his guns. He felt that 16 and 17-year-olds were in the greatest danger of yielding to what Nahum Goldmann once defined as "the kiss of death," the lures of assimilation in an open, affluent, Western society. A year in Israel would provide them with a profoundly personal and meaningful experience that would enrich their lives and strengthen their identification with Israel and the Jewish people. No matter what they did afterward, he insisted, the ties established that year would enhance their capacity to resist the temptations of assimilation. So Youth Aliya went ahead with expanding Project Discovery for Americans. There were all kinds of practical difficulties. Binyamin Amiram, the deputy director-general of Youth Aliya, said it was clear from the outset that all the teaching would have to be in English and in a style familiar to the student. An excellent teacher for Israelis might not succeed with Americans. The syllabus had to be approved by the educational authorities of the students' home towns, so that they would get full credit for courses completed in Israel. In addition, the students would be required to put in extra hours studying Hebrew and Israeli subjects, or there would be no point in the programme. Time would have to be allocated for trips around the country, extra-curricular activities, meetings with Israelis. Would so full a programme not be too demanding for teenagers?

All the difficulties were overcome. Syllabi were approved by American educational authorities. Suitable teachers were found, most of them former American teachers, who had settled in Israel, or Israelis who had studied in the U.S. It was obviously essential that each youngster should be put in the exact kind of educational framework that would appeal to him. In this respect Youth Aliya was lucky, in that it had developed a wide variety of residential settings in response to the changing needs of the 220,000 children it had nurtured and educated in its 52 years. An interesting concept was the decision to place youngsters together according to the community from which they came. This meant that it was a fair assumption that they had similar backgrounds and interests.

SO FAR, almost 1,000 young Americans have gone through Project Discovery.

covery. Nine youth villages or high schools have been used to cater for them. One of the best-known is the Dr. Israel Goldstein Village in Jerusalem, which ran English language programmes of different types for years. Now they have added the two-year-long course toward an Israeli matriculation. Another Jerusalem programme is in Tichon Ramat Yerushalayim.

Four programmes are located in agricultural high schools - Kfar Silver in Ashkelon, the Nir Ha'emek Regional High School near Afula, the Pardes Hanna High School and Kfar Hayarok at Ramat Hasharon, a few miles outside Tel Aviv. Two programmes, both in Jerusalem, are designed especially for Orthodox youth. These are the Shimon and Or Yerushalayim programmes.

The programmes vary from place to place, but basically the students have 22 hours of teaching in the subjects they would be studying in their American schools. One of the advantages of the project is that classes are very small, and students get far more individual attention than they generally get in the U.S.

Apart from these courses, the students devote 20 hours a week to the study of Hebrew, Jewish history and Israeli geography, seminars, sport and other extra-curricular activities. They go on field trips and visits to all parts of Israel, from Kiryat Shmona to Eilat. The students at the agricultural high schools participate in the farming activities, a curious experience for some urbanized young people who may never have been near a cow in their lives.

"I've really enjoyed doing manual work on a farm, getting to know the horses and cows," said Marc Perlson of Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. "That's something that would never have happened to me back home."

The combination of a conventional American curriculum with courses on Israel and Judaism make for an academically difficult programme - one made even more challenging by being in what for most of the students is a new and unfamiliar culture. But the students have no regrets about their decision to come.

"LEAVING HOME for the first time, though a difficult period for most teenagers, was made challenging and exciting. I never felt alone," said Tanya, a student from New York. "Learning about Judaism through interaction with other people from different cultures made me realize much more about myself and the people around me. Travelling, participating in extra-curricular activities and just being a part of everyday life in Israel opened my eyes to a whole new world. I found myself communicating in Hebrew. This

year gave me positive feelings towards my Jewish heritage, making me realize how unique and valuable it is to be a Jew."

Adam Kerzner, from Brooklyn, a mathematics whiz kid, who went to study in an agricultural high school, said, "I'm doing calculus and advanced-placement biology, and it's a tough course. It works out that I have almost individual instruction. This is good in some ways but bad in others - being in a class with other kids gives you a cross-fertilization of ideas. I've made close friends among Israelis, who've invited me to their homes. The biggest surprise was finding that Israelis are very like Americans."

An unexpected problem was getting accustomed to Israeli food. Merrick Slater from Ramsey, New Jersey, said, "At first we used to say to each other, 'When your taste buds die, you'll be able to take the food.' When we first came, we thought we'd starve to death. Instead of work on a farm, getting to know tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers. But we adjusted our food habits. We grew to love our delicious chocolate spread."

"The diversity of the programmes has enabled us to provide tailor-made courses for the students," says the deputy-director Amiram. "We are on the right track. I am convinced that within three to five years we'll have up to 3,000 high school kids studying for a year in Israel, discovering Israel and the values of Judaism for themselves at a very vital period in their lives."

DARWIN or Lamarck? Is progress achieved by evolution or by cataclysmic shifts? Or would musical life in Israel have attained its present level had not Bronislaw Huberman founded the Palestine Philharmonic from scratch by importing outstanding musicians?

And, by implication, does the success story of the IPO points to similar achievements in other fields, say banking?

Uri Teplitz shrugs his shoulder. A flautist, who had been with the orchestra since its inception until he retired, some 35 years later, Teplitz is currently doing research for a "personal" history of the IPO. Perusing documents at the IPO archives and the Huberman Foundation, Teplitz finds many of our preconceived notions do not fit the facts.

Huberman, he says, had not been won over to the idea of an all-Jewish orchestra in Palestine before Hitler came to power, shattering Huberman's dream of a united cultural Europe. Nor was he at first resolved to set up a completely new venture, bypassing the efforts of intrepid musicians who had been struggling against terrible odds to play orchestral music with few professional players and minimal financial support. However, Huberman soon realized that the pioneers had developed vested interests which, in his mind, could only perpetuate the artistic compromises which he decried.

Indeed, the pioneers had much to

# HUBERMAN'S GIFT

THERE AND THEN / Sraya Shapiro

their credit. Their ability to stage a performance was legendary. Golinkin, the czar of the "Palestine Opera", once managed to accompany Mennid with an orchestra composed of one violin and three tympani. Taube and Friedlaender, young conductors and refugees from Germany, were more happy with the choice of musicians, many of whom began arriving in Palestine, fleeing Hitler. But Huberman thought bigger than that.

There were a few contributing factors to Huberman's success. In the middle 1930s, it was fairly easy to collect money to help Hitler's victims. Then there was Huberman's prestige in the musical world - only a Huberman could persuade Toscanini to conduct the first Palestine Philharmonic concert in Tel Aviv. Toscanini gave the orchestra the worldwide recognition it needed, and in the process he also persuaded the players that they belonged to a famous ensemble and were not just stranded in a backwater of musical life. And there was the public. Palestine was then just absorbing the German Jews who were craving for the good music they grew up with in Germany. The Palestine Philharmonic made a good start.

HUBERMAN had instructed Hans-Wilhelm Steinberg, the conductor who auditioned candidates for the orchestra, to keep standards high.

Many a tear was shed when musicians who had been labouring hard to achieve fame were rejected.

Huberman initially intended to import 30 top musicians from Germany. But he had to take what he could get. Only 16 members of the first ensemble came from Germany. Ten arrived from Austria, 18 from Poland. About a third of the players had to be chosen from among the "local" musicians - among whom were many first-class men who had recently arrived. Huberman intervened in every little detail. Once he even cabled his decision on the disposition of violinists on the stage from Australia, where he was on tour.

Teplitz believes that Huberman erred on one issue. "He should have appointed a permanent conductor." Without a permanent musical influence, the orchestra was bound to become a most pliant body, responding easily to any conductor, but feeling rather forlorn when left to itself - which indeed happened when World War II cut off Palestine from visiting conductors. "The orchestra could sound wonderful under a great conductor, and rather mediocre under a poor one. I have been clamouring for a permanent musical director from the start," Teplitz says.

This may cause tears in many an instance, but that's inevitable. "Musicians are like children, they

need a martinet to work together." This, he says, is true not only of Jewish, and Israeli musicians: "I have seen the same phenomenon in three world famous orchestras - the stage just disintegrated when there was no firm, even cruel, conductor on the podium."

Musical, it appears thrives on good management.

As to banking, just about the time when the Palestine Philharmonic was being formed, a revolutionary development occurred in the Anglo-Palestine Bank (the forerunner of Bank Leumi). The key positions in the bank were filled by immigrants with sound banking experience. Does this prove a point?

A footnote on Teplitz himself. As a child, he craved to become a cellist. But when he was ten, he managed to blow the shofar, a feat which his bar-mitzva brother failed to do. Learning of this, their father decided that Uri should turn from strings to wind. He played the flute in the Jewish Orchestra which Steinberg formed in Frankfurt shortly after Hitler came to power. The conductor brought the 23-year-old flautist with him to Tel Aviv.

## PENFRIENDS

HOLGEV MEYER (18), of Op den Kamp 3, 2000 Nordenstedt 2 (Hamburg), West Germany, would like to correspond with Israelis between the ages of 15 and 20 in order to learn about our country, its people, its politics and its school system.

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Talpiot

Pierre Koenig St., Industrial Zone, opposite Hader factory 09.00-20.00

Givat Shaul B

former Jerusalem Jersey building 09.00-20.00

Beersheba:

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- Check Post 08.30-20.00
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## Fine first evening

MUSIC / Benjamin Bar-Am

MUSICAL EVENING directed by Michael Harap with the participation of Talia Jacob-Liss, soprano; Michael Melzer, flute; Uri Plank and Elyanum Salzman, violins; Rachel Kam and Brigitte Salzman, violas; Michael Haran, cello; Adina Har-Oz, harp; Jonathan Zak and Maya Melzer, pianos (Museum, Tel Aviv, January 25). Debussy: Sonata for flute, viola and harp; Satie: Gymnopédie No. 1 and 2 for piano; Valse for piano and cello; Suite for Piano-Quartet, Ravel ("Sheherazade"); Duparc: Franch: Quatre in F minor for piano and strings.

THIS FIRST Musical Evening of the season was devoted exclusively to French music. It was a beautiful evening, bringing out the characteristic traits of late 19th and early 20th century French music: elegance, colour, caressing melody and mellow harmony. It was interesting to observe how, in this music, the contemplation and philosophical depth which so strikingly mark almost all of its German counterpart are completely absent.

In the Debussy sonata, Melzer, Sulem-Reiter and Har-Oz created a

lovely blend of colours and pleasant melodiousness. Maya Weitzner, whom we heard for the first time, gave Satie's strange piano pieces most original interpretations. Soprano Talia Jacob-Liss, in the songs by Saint-Saens, Ravel and Duparc, showed considerable vocal skill and undeniable involvement, but was unable to modulate her voice sufficiently and, in particular, was unable to erase the harshness in the forte and high register. Zak, at the keyboard, compensated us magnanimously for what the singer was unable to demonstrate - his piano parts were excitingly rich in colour and nuance.

For the last item, Franck's piano quintet, Plank, Salzman, Kam, Haran, and Zak deserve nothing but unqualified praise. The five were deeply absorbed in Franck's repetitious motivic development and in the sensuous harmony. The quintet crowned an excellently chosen and devotedly executed programme.

## Sayings of the week

THE whole thing about television is that it isn't an instrument for conveying facts and information. It's an instrument of persuasion - Sir Nicholas Henderson, former British ambassador to Washington.

When they sighted the royal yacht all lit up, there were lumps in everybody's throats - Arthur Marshall, British ambassador to Aden.

Do they want a weakening at the top? Ministers are forever coming to me to get things done. I do it - Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

I find it ironic that the sex which cannot control its sex organ is the one that considers itself fit to control the world - Marilyn French, U.S. writer.

A wind of misogyny is blowing across the political spectrum - Yvonne Roudy, French minister for women's

rights. What bothers me a great deal is the abandonment of the writer's language. You immediately hear anchorman jargon and the jargon of militant radicalism going back to the thirties - U.S. writer Saul Bellow, on the "polluted" language of politics.

Once people went to the movies with a sort of reverence, just as in the ancient world people went to the theatre with a religious spirit - Italian film director Federico Fellini.

Whoever ignores the existence of varying degrees of evil is bound to become a servant of evil - Amos Oz, author.

The problem with Arafat is, he's escaped decision-making all his life. He has developed a diplomacy without a policy - Prime Minister Shimon Peres. (Observer)



# Egypt and Greece losing tourists after terror attacks

By PAUL LASHMAR  
Observer Business Service

CAIRO. — The recent wave of Middle East terrorist attacks has dealt a severe blow to tourism in some countries around the Mediterranean. Senior government officials in Egypt and Greece told *The Observer* that there has been a dramatic drop in the number of tourists to their countries since the hijacking of a TWA jet last June.

In particular, the American tourist trade has been badly affected. In the worst hit country, Egypt, the number of American visitors has plummeted to just 30 per cent of the previous year's figures. Although following the TWA hijacking President Reagan singled out the lack of security at Athens airport for criticism and instructed American travellers not to use the airport, the effect has not been felt across the entire region.

"The problem is that all Americans view the Mediterranean and the Middle East as a small corner of the world and lump it all together," said one despairing hotel manager.

Since June, four further terrorist attacks, the hijacking of the cruise liner *Achille Lauro*, the hijack of the Egyptian 737 and the two recent attacks on Rome and Vienna airports have made matters worse.

The Egyptian Minister of Tourism and Aviation, Dr. Fouad Sultan, said that they had hoped to attract 250,000 Americans this year, but they would be lucky now to get 75,000. The number of tourists from

Europe has also dropped by 20 per cent.

Tourism is Egypt's fourth-largest industry, bringing in about \$1.100 million each year. Dr. Sultan has made some dramatic changes to expand the Egyptian market. Despite protests from Egyptair, he has opened up Egypt to charter flights.

Much of Egypt's tourist trade is "cultural," with visits to the famous ancient temples and tombs. Hotels in Luxor and Aswan, on the Nile in Upper Egypt, which rely almost 100 per cent on tourists, were very quiet last week. With temperatures over 30 degrees C. during January, the hotels are usually packed at this time of year. A tourist guide in Aswan since 1943 said last week that it had been the quietest January since World War II.

The drop in tourism has not been so dramatic in Cairo. Richard Lyon, sales director of the Cairo Marriott Hotel, the largest hotel in North Africa, said: "There has been a fall off in the number of Americans staying at the hotel. In October, after the *Achille Lauro* hijack, our cancellations were 50 per cent up on 1984. But luckily, most of our guests are business people and they come whatever is happening."

In Greece, the deputy-general secretary of the Tourist Board, Costas Charalambopoulos, said that they had experienced a substantial drop in the number of Americans visiting their country.

After the June TWA hijacking over 15,000 Americans cancelled



their Greek holidays. The Greek government is still angry with President Reagan over his adverse travel instructions at the time and their effect.

A delegation from the American Federal Aviation Authority which went to Athens for three days last July after the TWA hijacking, found that the security there was equal to that at any other European airport.

Both the TWA and Egyptair hijackings took off from Athens, but had shortly before visited Cairo. Unsurprisingly, both countries blame the other for the poor security

that allowed the terrorists to get guns and grenades on the aircraft.

The Greeks say that the terrorists could not have possibly got the weapons through their airport checks and they must have been put on the aircraft at Cairo. The Egyptians accuse Athens of not vetting their airport staff and allowing passengers to walk to aircraft from the lounge.

Both airports now have stringent body and baggage checks. Over 1,000 police guard Athens airport. In Cairo, a soldier armed with a submachinegun guards each aircraft.

## Jerusalem Plaza Hotel now under Sheraton management

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A toll-free reservation service for Sheraton Hotels throughout the world will now be available to Israelis.

This was announced yesterday at the Sheraton Jerusalem Plaza Hotel at a ceremony at which the management agreement between Sheraton International Ltd. and Yehuda Hotels, owners of the Plaza, was made public. Formerly, the hotel was managed by Canadian Pacific.

Jerry Morin, president and director of operations of Sheraton in Europe, Africa and the Middle East, explained that his chain had allowed its contract with the King Solomon Hotel in Jerusalem to lapse, when it became clear that the owners were not in a position to complete the hotel as planned.

A similar situation had arisen some years ago, when the owners of

the first Sheraton hotel in Tel Aviv decided not to invest enough to bring service up to Sheraton's standard. But Morin stressed that Sheraton is not in the habit of jumping from hotel to hotel.

He saw the Plaza as a hotel with great potential and hoped to bring it to the point where it would be considered the best in the city. Sheraton had no plans, he said, of changing the policy whereby the hotel catered in particular to observant Jews. Manager Bernhard Kohn is to continue in his position.

The announcement concerning reservations was made by John Henderson, European director of reservations for the chain. The service, which is primarily of help to travel agents, is in use throughout the world and was made possible in Israel through technological advances.

## Kupat Holim says debt to drug firms only \$6m.

Kupat Holim Clalit yesterday denied that it owes Israeli drug companies \$15 million, saying that it owes them only \$6m, "due to obsolete credit arrangements with the companies."

A spokesman for the Histadrut health fund was reacting to statements made on Tuesday by Dr. Ehud Geller, head of the pharmaceutical and chemical division of the Manufacturers Association.

Kupat Holim Clalit demands easier credit terms from the drug companies, now that inflation has been drastically reduced. The sharply reduced participation of the government in the health fund's budget, he added, was also responsible for its debts.

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## Austerity move takes its toll in glamour

## Fashion Week becomes Buyers Days

By GREER FAY CASHMAN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — A glittering media and social event for 20 years, Israel Fashion Week seems doomed to lose some of its sparkle. To begin with, it has already lost its name. Addressing a news conference here yesterday, Moshe Golus, chairman of the Fashion Centre at the Israel Export Institute, announced that henceforth, at least for the annual winter showings, the event will be known as Buyers Days.

Along with the new name comes a new image — one of non-nonsense austerity. The frivolities which were part of past Israel Fashion Weeks, have all but disappeared. There will be no extravagant cocktail parties, no gala opening and no pampering of the press.

In fact, there will be hardly any press at all. Foreign fashion correspondents, whose visits were paid for by the Israel Export Institute, are staying home this season or going somewhere other than Israel.

Local fashion writers can attend, but there's not much incentive. The fashion show, a ticket to which was an important status symbol, will be a low-key, businesslike affair, strictly for foreign buyers and members of the fashion press. There will be no tickets for the general public, and only the craftiest outsider is going to find a way in.

Throughout the three-day event which begins on February 18, there will be no press room. In bygone days, the press room served as an international meeting point as well as a source of information. It is doubtful whether anyone abroad, other than specific invitees, is even aware of (Israel) Buyers Days. The event is not listed in the calendars of international trade fairs and conventions published by various airlines.

Likewise, there have been no notices in the global (rag) trade press. Whereas Fashion Week used to be widely advertised in Europe and the U.S., this time it was not advertised at all. Invitations were sent to European buyers for chain stores which regularly do business with Israel. Approximately 100 buyers are expected. Their fares and accommodation will be subsidized by the 41 participating companies, each of which must contribute \$300 to a buyers fund.

American buyers have been excluded from the invitation list because a group of 36 manufacturers of women's and children's clothing will next month travel to New York for an Israeli solo show.

Golus said that at this stage he expects to retain the old glamorous format for the annual Summer Fashion Week. "By trying out two different approaches in the same

year, we will be able to decide which is better."

Reporters present were not persuaded of the Export Institute's wisdom in tearing down what has become a tradition. Nor were they convinced by Golus's protestations that the change is in the interests of cultivating a more distinct trade fair flavour.

Fashion Centre director Miri Beckenstein admitted that eliminating the glamour highlights and advertising brought a savings of about \$70,000. The budget for last summer's Fashion Week, she said, was \$100,000. She doubted that expenditure for Buyers Days would be more than \$30,000.

The start of the recovery of European currencies had a favourable but slight influence on Israel's fashion exports, which rose from \$260 million in 1984 to \$265m. last year. This was the first increase in this decade.

## Arava tomatoes fetch high prices in U.S.

TEL AVIV (Jm). — Large, firm, red tomatoes grown by two Arava moshavim — Edan and Tsofer — are earning farmers a net profit of \$500 a ton on the American market.

One hundred tons have been sent by air to the U.S. and another 400 tons are scheduled for dispatch.

## WHAT'S ON

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS 5.75 per line including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs NIS 115.74 per line, including VAT, per month.

### JERUSALEM

**MUSEUMS**  
ISRAEL MUSEUM, Exhibitions: Ancient Mirrors, display of mirrors from different cultures; Contemporary Art from Museum Collection; Ayala Zuckerman Pavilion for Israel Art, exhibition of major Israeli art works of this century; Architecture in Jerusalem, computer games to building with stone; "Nerot Mitzvah" Ideas for Light in Jewish ritual; "The Cosmic and the Divine, Andean textiles"; "From the Depths of the Sea," cargoes of ancient wrecks from Carmel coast (Rockefeller); "Pleasures of the Land," present versions of surrounding landscapes; Paley Center, near Rockefeller Museum; Odion Redon-ols, pastels, drawings and prints; Permanent collections of Judaica, Archaeology, Art and Ethnology; Art Viewing Hours — Main Museum: 10-5; At 11: Guided tour of Museum in English; 11: Guided tour of Rockefeller Museum in English.

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### TEL AVIV

**MUSEUMS**



## MARKET PLACE

PINHAS LANDAU

## The absurd savings war

The banks are at it again, with their blaring announcements of bonuses and urgent extras, all intended to boost deposits in the latest of their perennial campaigns. Not that their terms offered are anything to sniff at. The problem is that they are so good as to be suspicious. How can anybody pay so much?

The answer lies in the convergence of two reactions to one basic trend. These trends are from the public and the banks, and both are a response to the government's insatiable appetite for borrowed money.

But first a few facts. The competition between the commercial banks is now centered on the Teshah scheme. Its attraction for the banks is that they are allowed to cover their borrowing from the public either by buying new government bonds or by buying old ones in the market — whichever is better.

Furthermore, they are allowed to keep 25 per cent of their deposits for their own use, with 75 per cent being redeposited at the Treasury — an annually favourable arrangement.

Teshah's attraction for the public is that it pays a lot and doesn't tie up money for long periods. Nobody is running the scheme for longer than 37 months, and currently most of the banks are offering 24 or 25 months, with Discount the longest, at 30. Furthermore, not only are savers getting 6-7 per cent annual interest over and above fully linked capital (all tax-free, of course), but if they cannot maintain their savings for the full period, they don't lose very much either.

In fact, in the current campaign, things have come to such a pass that Leumi and Hapoalim have designed their schemes to make it more attractive for savers to withdraw in the course of the second year than to wait till the end.

Leumi promises to pay unlinked interest equivalent to the prime borrowing rate on a month-by-month basis, if the saver withdraws after 14-18 months. Hapoalim has now trumped this by offering 110 per cent of the representative overdraft rate — but only for savers until next February or March.

What does this all mean? In the first place, it should be recalled that all "savings," whether bank schemes, provident funds, or life insurance, boil down to the same basic component — government bonds.

This trend has been fought, successfully so far, by systematically increasing the terms of the loans, thereby enticing lenders to reinvest.

Thus we now have savings schemes for 2-3 years, where once 4-6 was the norm. Interest paid and ease of withdrawal have also improved. This has caused a switch of funds from longer-term savings to shorter ones.

With the coming of disinflation, a new phenomenon has emerged. Unlinked shchel investments have become better than linked ones, and vastly better than dollar investments, because the rate of interest has far exceeded the inflation.

Now comes the crucial point. The banks are all stuffed full of old government index-linked bonds, bought years back to cover the old schemes of those days. These bonds were for 6, 10 and even 17 years, and the possibility that people would withdraw money after a few years and then reinvest it in another way (e.g. dollar-linked or unlinked) was not taken into account.

The result has been "mismatching" — the banks have liabilities to savers for periods that do not match the maturity dates of their own assets (i.e., the government bonds).

The correct solution would be for the Treasury to redeem the old bonds early and force the banks to reinvest their new deposits back in the Treasury. But the Treasury refuses to do so, and instead the banks are stuck with old bonds for which they have no buyers, have to cover new savings by buying other old bonds in the market, while the Treasury itself can hardly sell any new bonds (not enough buyers).

The banks, however, know when they have their stock of old bonds coming up for redemption, and they are eager to ensure that people will cash in their existing savings at a time when they also have bonds to cash in. Thus Hapoalim, for example, has large maturities in February/March 1987, and Leumi in the April/July period. So they make it extremely worthwhile to save until that point, and no further.

This is not to say that one should not take advantage of the current offers. But it's as well to know what's behind them.

## The era of 'real' credit cards dawns

By PINHAS LANDAU

The question has been posed: when will Israel get a credit card that gives credit, and not just a debit card of the Visa/Isracard variety?

An answer was not long in coming. Yesterday brought a press release from Israel Credit Cards, the company owned by the Leumi and Discount banks that runs the Visa local and international cards, which announces the first move toward a "proper" credit card.

From February 16, Visa card holders will have the option of buying on credit up to 45 days, instead of the current 15 days. The extra 30 days

will be a chargeable credit period, while the first 15 days will continue to be free of charge, as hitherto.

The interest rate for this credit period will be 4 per cent per month under current terms, which is considered quite cheap, compared to loan charges in the banks. The credit will be available to cardholders without need of special collateral. A local cardholder will be eligible for NIS 750 of credit, international Visa cards for NIS 1,000 and "Gold Visa" for NIS 1,500.

The cardholder will have to decide at the time of the purchase whether

he wants to pay in 15 days or to utilize his extra 30 day's credit. Shops and other outlets will hold different forms for each case.

Thus the new move is a step in the direction of true credit cards, but it still offers little flexibility compared to the accepted norms abroad.

It is, however, another sign of the gathering pace of change in Israel banking, particularly in the consumer sector. It is a further indication that 1986 is likely to be a year full of interesting developments and competition, from which the banks' clientele will be the primary beneficiaries.

## CHALLENGER CLUES

(Continued from Page One)

administrator, announced that President and Mrs. Reagan would attend a memorial service on Friday at Johnson Space Centre in Houston for the seven crew members.

Reagan delayed for one week his State of the Union speech, which had been scheduled for Tuesday night, and ordered American flags to be flown at half-staff until next Monday on public buildings and military installations.

Graham said the astronauts had probably had no warning of the explosion.

He also said the two solid rockets had been deliberately destroyed when they went off course after separating from the fireball. An Air Force officer had transmitted a radio signal to explosive packages in the boosters.

"There was an indication that one of the solids was heading for a populated area and he took the correct action," Graham said.

Eight ships, including four Coast Guard cutters, searched throughout the night over the 80 by 160 km rectangle where Challenger's wreckage fell. Seven planes and helicopters resumed the hunt at daylight.

The investigation could take

months, just as it did after America's only other space programme tragedy, the launch pad fire that killed three Apollo astronauts 19 years ago.

Reagan yesterday telephoned relatives of the seven astronauts killed.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said that Vice-President George Bush, reporting to the president yesterday on his visit to Cape Canaveral, had relayed to Reagan the request of John Scobee, wife of the shuttle's pilot Francis Scobee, to "not let this stop the shuttle programme."

Speakes said that as of yesterday morning the government had received messages of condolence from 19 foreign governments, as well as officials of the UN and NATO.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev led a host of world dignitaries who expressed their shock, and condolences to the bereaved families, Reagan and the American people.

The Arab world's first astronaut, Saudi Prince Sultan bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, who flew on the shuttle Discovery last June, said he was deeply distressed but would, if asked, "make another space expedition tomorrow."

## JUDY'S

(Continued from Page One)

took part in a seven-day scientific mission.

Resnik's work on the 1984 space shuttle mission included pointing a camera on the orbiting craft's long robotic arm to inspect initial efforts to shake a chunk of ice off the side of the shuttle. She was also in charge of extending and retracting the spaceship's tall solar power display.

Resnik was the granddaughter of Jacob Resnik of Kiev, who settled in Palestine in the 1920s before moving to Cleveland and becoming a shoemaker (ritual slaughterer). Marvin Resnik, his son, grew up in an Orthodox atmosphere, and studied in a yeshiva in Palestine as a child. He still speaks fluent Hebrew and has visited Israel occasionally, the last time three years ago. "Judy did not want to be known as a Jewish woman astronaut, but simply as an astronaut. Religion played no part in her life. There is no question she knew she was Jewish, but she didn't want to attend or participate in the amenities of Jewish life," Dr. Resnik added.

"Judy was totally dedicated to her life as an astronaut. That was her whole religion. Her life was dedicated to the exploration of space. She was doing the thing she loved."

## Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

## MARKET STATISTICS

## Indices:

General Share Index	98.08	-0.11%
Non-Bank Index	101.17	+0.37%
Arrangement	96.80	-0.33%
Insurance	97.41	+0.18%
Commerce, Services	102.00	+0.14%
Real Estate	109.26	+0.51%
Investment Cos.	102.10	+0.08%
Textiles	98.11	+0.39%
Metals	104.42	+1.18%
Electronics	98.28	+0.68%
Chemicals	95.51	-0.35%
Industrial Invest.	99.79	+0.55%
General Bond Index	95.53	+0.20%
Index-linked Bonds	97.32	-0.13%
Fully-linked	98.09	+0.17%
Partially-linked	98.67	+0.39%
Dollar-linked Bonds	98.77	-0.03%
Short-term 0-2 yrs	98.13	+0.05%
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	98.04	-0.17%
Long-term 5+ yrs	96.67	-0.13%

## Turnovers:

Shares - total	NIS 4,385,800
Arrangement	NIS 2,225,300
Non-Bank	NIS 2,180,500
Bonds - total	NIS 2,508,300
Index-linked	NIS 1,800,700
Dollar-linked	NIS 1,086,600
Treasury Bills	NIS 1,831,200

## Share Movements:

Advances	143	(149)
of which 5+ "buyers only"	14	(21)
Declines	111	(97)
of which 5+ "sellers only"	13	(26)
Unchanged	138	(157)
Trading halt	53	(42)

## Bond Market Trends:

Dollar-linked	Rises to 1%
5% fully-linked	

## 4.25% fully-linked

80% linked	Stable
90% linked	Rises to 0.5%
Double-linked:	
Dollar-linked:	Stable
Admon	Stable
Rimon	Stable
Agan 5	Mixed to 0.5%
For. Curr.	Stable
dominated	
Treasury Bills	2.02-2.11%
(monthly yield)	

## Arrangement yields:

IDB ord.	14.82%
Union 0.1	14.35%
Discount A	14.82%
Mizrahi r.	14.81%
Hapoalim r.	14.78%
General A	14.82%
Leumi stock	14.71%
Fin. Trade 1	12.98%

## SELECTED PRICE QUOTATIONS

Name	Price	Volume	%	100NIS change
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## Commercial Banks

Leumi	540	1494	-4.4
First Int'l	2560	2805	+0.8
FIBI	2455	1432	+0.6

## Commercial Banks

IDB r.	73737	108	-0.2
Union 0.1	55300	126	-0.2
Discount	33800	873	-0.4
Mizrahi	30400	948	-0.4
Hapoalim r.	50000	619	-
General A	127800	5	-0.5
Leumi 0.1	31810	1281	-1.1
Fin. Trade	44000	2	+2.3

## Mortgage Banks

Leumi Mort. r.	3125	180	+2.6
Dev. Mort.	810	454	-1.8
Mishkan r.	1700	193	+3.0
Telehot r.	10380	22	-0.8
Merriv r.	1504	257	-3.3

## Financial Institutions

Agic C	24990	-	-
Ind. Dev. DD	no trading	-	-
Clal Leasing 0.1	4540	10	+3.2

## Insurance

Ararat 0.1 r.	2945	126	+1.4
Hesneh r.	2215	3828	+4.2
Phoenix 0.1	1095	125	+3.3
Hamishmar	4900	56	-4.9
Menorah 1	5283	3	-
Sahar r.	2340	50	+4.9
Zion Hold. 1	7500	-	-5.5

## Trade &amp; Services

Mair Eran	4390	50	-
Supersol 2	3630	80	+2.1
Dolek r.	3675	1107	+0.7
Lighterage	9050	37	+3.4
Cold Storage	780	0	-0.5
Dan Hotels	3388	42	-1.0
Yarden Hotel	1800	40	+2.7
Hilton 1	4750	-	-
Team 1	1400	101	-5.7

## Real Estate, Building and Agriculture

Azorim	2489	623	-
Elon	910	287	-1.1
Africa Isr. 0.1	31400	9	-
Dankner	3148	14	-
Prop. & Bldg.	3900	554	-
Bayeside 0.1	6650	30	+3.1
ILDC r.	27800	88	-
Ressco r.	no trading	-	-
Mahadim	10650	53	-
Hederaim	1750	410	-

## Industrials

Dubek b	2310	220	-
Pri-Za 1	3772	421	-0.2
Sunroast	5375	53	-
Elita	9390	6	-
Elita	513	150	+0.6
Argaman r.	4000	100	+2.2
Defra G 1	3290	37	+2.0
Maquetta 1	18700	14	+1.1
Eagle 1	7510	361	+1.3
Schoellerma	9250	97	-
Rogovin	2650	383	-
Union 0.1 r.	12000	101	+1.7
Is. Can Co. 1	682	3198	-
Union 0.1	1891	68	-2.8
Zion Cables	3600	26	-
Pecker Steel	395000	5	-1.0
Elut 3 r.	-	-	-

## Elron

Art	389000	40	-
Art Electronics	2372	1089	+0.5
Spectronic 1	1485	185	-
T.A.T. 1	3100	220	-2.2
Ackerstein 1	1045	220	-
Agan 5	13800	63	+2.3
Alliance	763	54	+1.7
Dexter	2790	17	-
Fertilizers	8750	16	+2.8
Hafia Chem.	885	5003	+1.7
Teva r.	45800	60	-
Dead Sea r.	12220	545	-
Petrochem.	341	15842	+1.3
Neca Chem.	3100	81	-
Fruition	8100	56	-
Hadera Paper	134500	58	+0.4
Central Trade	4980	230	+0.8
Koor p.	4000000	-	-
Clal Inds.	1131	8101	-

## Investment Companies

IDB Dev. r.	2780	1475	-
Elam	1770	313	-
Alfa 1	580	830	+2.1
Gehalet	1288	-	-
Israel Corp. 1	3810	394	+0.9
Wolfson 1 r.	58900	-	-
Hapoalim Inv.	3945	447	+1.0
Leumi Invest.	3605	218	+0.8
Discount Invest.	3805	1763	-
Mizrahi Invest.	7371	-	+5.0
Clal 10	1980	1010	-
Landeco 0.1	5580	6	-
Pama 0.1	5500	127	+1.9

## Oil Exploration

Paz Oil Expl.	10290	59	+2.9
J.O.E.L.	1415	1291	+4.4

Abbreviations: a.o. sellers only b.o. buyers only r registered

## FINANCIAL DATA: ISRAEL, EUROPE, U.S.

## Israel Money Markets January 28, 1986

SHEKEL INTEREST RATES  
PRIME BORROWING RATE: 2 1/2% per month  
Unlinked Deposit (Annual Rates)

	LAST UPDATED	TAPAS	PAKAM 7-DAY	PAKAM 30-DAY
LEUMI	29.1	12-25%	13-24%	12-22%
HAPAOALIM	9.1	15-25%	20-26%	21-26%
DISCOUNT	23.1	18-25%	18-23%	16-27%
MIZRAHI	9.1	12-19%	12-24%	12-24%
FIRST INT'L	29.1	15-26%	20-26%	18-26%

Rates vary according to size of deposit.  
(TAPAS: demand deposit paying daily interest.  
Pakam: fixed-term deposit available from 7 to 59 days.)

## PATAH — FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT RATES (as of January 29)

	3-MONTHS	6-MONTHS	12-MONTHS
USD	7.500	7.500	7.625
STG	11.875	11.750	11.750
DMK	4.000	4.000	4.115
SFR	3.625	3.625	3.625
YEN	5.000	4.625	4.625

Rates vary according to size of deposit and are subject to change.

## SHEKEL FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

COUNTRY	CURRENCY	CHEQUES AND TRANSACTIONS		BANKNOTES		BANK OF ISRAEL <i>Representative Rates</i>
		<i>Purchase</i>	<i>Sale</i>	<i>Purchase</i>	<i>Sale</i>	
U.S.A.	DOLLAR	1	1.4763 1.4947	1	1.45 1.52	1.4858
GREAT BRITAIN	STERLING	1	2.0735 2.0993	1	2.03 2.13	2.0882
GERMANY	MARK	1	.0188 .0275	1	.0164 .0234	.0224
FRANCE	FRANC	1	.0217 .0242	1	.0201 .0229	.0209
HOLLAND	GULDEN	1	.5482 .5550	1	.54 .56	.5519
SWITZERLAND	FRANC	1	.7310 .7401	1	.72 .75	.7363
SWEDEN	KRONA	1	.1987 .1991	1	.19 .20	.1979
NORWAY	KRONE	1	.1984 .2009	1	.19 .20	.1979
DENMARK	KRONE	1	.1579 .1700	1	.16 .17	.1680
FINLAND	MARK	1	.2765 .2799	1	.27 .28	.2782
CANADA	DOLLAR	1	1.0430 1.0560	1	1.02 1.07	1.0485
AUSTRALIA	DOLLAR	1	1.0555 1.0680	1	1.04 1.08	1.0594
SOUTH AFRICA	RAND	1	.6444 .6524	1	.64 .65	.6488
BELGIUM	FRANC	10	.2982 .3020	29	.31 .34	.3046
AUSTRIA	SCHILLING	10	.8808 .8918	87	.91 .94	.8963
ITALY	LIRE	1000	.9079 .9192	89	.94 .97	.9138
JAPAN	YEN	100	.7618 .7713	75	.76 .78	.7675
JORDAN	DINAR	1	—	—	3.99 4.24	4.04
LEBANON	POUND	1	—	—	.83 .88	.8395



## THE JERUSALEM POST

Ari Rath  
Editor and  
Managing DirectorEzra Frankel  
Editor

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## Jewish coexistence

PEACEFUL coexistence in this country is ordinarily viewed in the context of relations between Jews and Arabs, whether in Neve Ya'acov or in Hebron. But this is not entirely correct, as the case of Yavne'el, an old moshava in Lower Galilee, clearly indicates.

On Tuesday this week the Yavne'el local council voted 7 to 1, with one abstention, to reject an application by Rabbi Eliezer Shlomo Schick, leader of one branch of the Bratslav Hassidic movement, to set up quarters for himself and some of his followers, complete with a synagogue and a yeshiva, within the village boundaries. His opponents on the council argued that the rabbi was a rabid anti-Zionist who preached the duty of shirking army service and who would transform Yavne'el, one of the earliest of Zionist colonies in the land, into a replica of Jerusalem's ultra-Orthodox Mea She'arim.

The lone abstainer on the council explained his vote on the ground that it was unnecessary since the council, he said, had already turned down a similar bid by the Hassidic rabbi eight months ago.

On the face of it, this was a strange, if not incredible, decision: Jews barring fellow Jews — and seemingly only because they did not care for their doctrines and customs and, perhaps, their looks — from legally settling next-door to them in the Jewish state. The issue had come up at the full cabinet session two days earlier, in the wake of press reports about the debate among the villagers. Yosef (Yoske) Shapira, minister-without-portfolio representing the religious Morasha party, asked the justice minister, Moshe Nissim, son of the late Sephardi chief rabbi, whether the anti-Schick forces might have the law on their side.

Mr. Nissim's answer, not unexpectedly, was that the mere fact that Yavne'el's would-be residents were Bratslav Hassidim was entirely irrelevant to their right to settle there.

The justice minister might also have remarked that it was by no means foreordained that a Kiryat Bratslav in Yavne'el should turn the overwhelmingly non-Orthodox village into a boiling cauldron of belligerent fanaticism. The Bratslavers are not known for their extremism — and then there is the example of Hatzor, in Upper Galilee, where Jews of wholly divergent religious persuasions reside peacefully, side by side, more or less, without getting into one another's way.

The trouble is that Hatzor is rather an exception to the more general rule which suggests a countrywide drive by self-ghettoized ultra-Orthodox Jews seeking to expand their existing habitations by forcibly imposing their exclusive life-style on their secular — or merely not-so-religious — neighbours, thus hopefully pushing them away.

It is hardly news that the fringes — themselves pretty wide — of the impenetrable haredi citadel in Jerusalem that is Mea She'arim, constitute a veritable "no-man's land" where rarely punished violence against the "non observant" is the norm. But roughly the same attitude, if somewhat less brazenly, has been displayed by ex-Mea She'arites in Ramot Polin trying to lay down the law to nearby, and far larger, Ramot. The people of Ramot may be forgiven for sensing a takeover plot.

Fear of repetition of the same pattern is what has caused some people on Jerusalem's Palmah Street, by no means an exclusively "secular" area, to organize in opposition to a city plan for a yeshiva on their street, and for residents of the French Hill quarter to resist the setting up of a synagogue, larger than originally visualized, in their midst.

Tolerance is a two-way street, and those who spurn it in principle can hardly claim its benefits. Observant Jews with a liberal bent need hardly be reminded of this truism. The Hebrew University's Alice Shalvi, a professor of English, has ruefully noted that real estate advertisements are often directed at "only religious" buyers, never at "only non-religious" ones. Prof. Shalvi would like to see this practice stopped; but the tone in the Orthodox community today is set by others.

## Death in space

MILLIONS of people, sitting comfortably in their seats and watching what they expected to be a routine news item on television, cried out in anguish as they saw, in incredulous horror, the U.S. spacecraft Challenger exploding shortly after take-off. It is a tribute to the American space programme — and, for that matter, to the Russian space programme as well — that such terrible catastrophes are so rare and so completely unexpected. We have come to take it for granted that every launching will be successful.

The last calamity in the U.S. programme occurred as long ago as 1967, when three astronauts were asphyxiated in their craft after it caught fire on a launch pad. The Soviets had an even worse setback, which they tried to keep secret. It is perhaps a reflection of two competitive ways of life that the Americans take their risks in front of grandstands and television cameras, for all the world to see, while the Soviets prefer to keep their launchings secret until they have been successful.

Two women were among the seven brave people who died to increase man's knowledge of space. One of these women was a teacher, Christa McAuliffe, picked from 11,000 teachers who had sought the privilege of flying into space. The other woman was Dr. Judith Resnik, a Jewish scientist. Their deaths are particularly poignant.

President Ronald Reagan, reacting to the tragedy, said that going out to the frontier involves taking risks. He was right. The seven who perished died for what is one of the greatest of humanity's causes, the desire to explore the vast universe through which our planet moves.

In all the millennia that men have existed on the face of this planet, they have never managed to reach out beyond the cloak of the atmosphere. Many events and victories that seem to be very important prove to be of ephemeral value in the long march of history. But space travel is unique: it is transforming our knowledge of the universe. It must continue.

Its continuation will prove that the seven heroic pioneers did not die in vain.

## COLD PEACE

(Continued from Page One)

ment projects with Israeli companies. This followed Peres's speech to the German Council for Industry and Trade on Monday.

Economic issues played a dominant role in the talks that Peres held in Germany. On a basic issue, Peres suggested to Kohl that the European Community assist the Middle East through economic cooperation. Indeed, the economic process should precede the peace process, Israeli sources said.

Peres made his proposal during a late-night conversation with Kohl in Bonn on Tuesday. Israel has specifically in mind itself, Jordan and Egypt when speaking of economic cooperation between the two regions.

Kohl was reported to have agreed in principle to Peres's suggestion.

Israeli sources said. But they said that no practical steps were envisaged yet.

In another development, German Economics Minister Martin Bangemann stressed during his conversation with Peres on Tuesday that Germany was especially interested in co-operation with Israel in high technology. Bangemann also promised to foster tourism between the two countries.

The Associated Press late yesterday quoted Peres as saying that yesterday's Israeli air raid near the Ein Hilweh refugee camp in Lebanon would not have an impact on the peace process he was promoting during his European trip.

"It won't have any impact because the peace progress is not in contradiction to fighting terror and stopping terrorism," Peres said.

AFTER Prime Minister Peres's tour — or perhaps one should say *tour de force* of Europe, the prospects for an early breakthrough in the peace process still look rather dim. Peres has been eminently successful on the public relations front (no mean achievement in itself), and there may have been progress on procedural matters, but certainly little, if anything, was achieved on the substance of a possible Israeli-Jordanian-Palestinian settlement.

On the other hand, in several pronouncements in London, Peres has indicated that Israel will try to generate some movement in the present situation, even if it had to do so on its own. Peres may be hinting at a mutually agreed-upon unilateral autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza. This sounds like a contradiction in terms, but given the unusual aspects of the problem of the territories, and especially of King Hussein's precarious situation *vis-à-vis* the Palestinians, Syria and the Arab world, a unilateral action on the part of Israel that Hussein and Arab leaders in the West Bank and Gaza would accept, either before or after the fact, may be exactly what is called for.

Speaking to the UN General Assembly several months ago, Peres first expounded the possibility of "interim agreements" for Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip without deviations from the government position or even materially from the policy of the previous Begin government. The Palestinian part of Camp David had, after all, been an interim and functional agreement; as one

of the senior Americans involved in that conference once told me, the functional approach was certainly the "flavour" of Camp David... no lines, neither annexation by Israel nor separate statehood nor full return to Jordan.

If there was a deviation in Peres's UN speech, it was from the long-cherished ideas of the Labour Alignment with regard to territorial compromise. Indeed, it seems that Peres no longer harbours any illusions with regard to the feasibility of a territorial solution in the foreseeable future.

WHAT IS meant in referring to interim agreements? The Camp David example not only specified that it was to be transitional as far as the time factor was involved, but also implied the respective roles of Israel, Jordan and the local Arab residents (with regard to Israel, mainly in the domain of security). Jordan could not agree now to adhere formally to the Camp David Accords; however, since the realities that were its basis have not changed, nor are they likely to change, presumably most other concepts of interim agreement will, in more than one way, be similar to the parameters of Camp David.

Not everybody will agree with this. Some view a transitional or interim agreement not as a functional arrangement, in which each side forgoes part of its aims and aspirations, but rather as a formula where-

## ZALMAN SHOVAL

by Israel will. "for openers," make some sort of territorial withdrawal, either as an indication of willingness to make a total withdrawal at some later stage or even in return for something less than an actual peace treaty, e.g. a Jordanian declaration of non-belligerency.

In the past one used to call this "a bit of peace in exchange for a bit of land," on which the late Moshe Dayan once remarked that "a bit of peace" is purely verbal, but "a piece of land" will be certain and final.

Others choose to see a parallel between the Egyptian-Israeli interim agreements of 1974-5 and something similar between Israel and Jordan. However, no such parallel exists. Even without getting into the discussion whether the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty was ultimately attained because of the above interim agreements or in spite of them, it must be clear to everyone that after the Yom Kippur War, a separation of forces was imperative while a *de facto* state of non-belligerency has existed for over 17 years between Israel and Jordan. The questions here are not military but political. There is, by the way, scant evidence that Hussein would welcome such a territorial *hors d'oeuvre* with all the responsibilities this would entail; anyway, this is not what Peres seems to have in mind.

Negotiations (those that did perhaps take place and those in future) will probably focus on the proposal that Israel turn over part or

all of its responsibilities for the civilian affairs of the Arab inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza to the Jordanians and to the Palestinian Arabs themselves. Israel would retain responsibility for all security matters and, of course, for the Jewish residents in the area. Problems, such as water resources or public land would be dealt with jointly.

All this without King Hussein being obliged to renounce officially any of his basic positions or claims — not those referring to the return of the territories; not the championing of "legitimate rights of the Palestinian people"; and not with regard to Jerusalem. And by acquiescing to a *de facto* situation that may not satisfy the declared aspirations of the Palestinian Arabs, but would vastly improve their lot, Hussein could rightly claim that this improvement was achieved thanks to him, and in spite of the obduracy of Yasser Arafat.

One pre-condition for such a formula must obviously be leaving the sovereignty issue in abeyance. The ideal solution may ultimately be the establishment of a formal co-sovereignty ("condominium") over the whole West Bank and Gaza area, perhaps dividing the area into a majority of Arab and a minority of Jewish cantons. Time is probably not yet ripe for this.

What could be achieved, even now, is a practical division, or sharing of the various competences in the "territories" between the three

sides. Israel, for example, could abolish many civilian aspects of its military government, with the function being transferred *ex-post facto* to Jordan and the Palestinians.

EVEN Jerusalem could be less insoluble than is sometimes believed. The principal argument of the Arabs in this context is the sanctity of certain areas in the Moslem faith (though according to Prof. Bernard Lewis, one of the world's foremost Islamic scholars, the fact that Jerusalem is holy to the Moslems may be disputable). Limited extra-territoriality of holy places, could be granted similar to the status accorded to certain properties of the Catholic Church in Italy outside Vatican City under the 1929 Lateran Agreements. This would even permit Jordan, as the representative of the Islamic world, to assume the role of "trustee" for these sites.

The pre-condition for any agreement, even a partial one, is a perception of common interest. Israel, Jordan and the more sensible Palestinians surely share an interest in achieving some sort of *modus vivendi* and in containing the more extreme and potentially destructive elements in the Middle East.

The next few weeks will show King Hussein's real intentions. In any case, Israel has conveyed to him, as clearly as possible, that we are ready for far-reaching concessions to achieve a settlement, but the ball is now in his court, and time will not be on the side of peace, nor on his side, if he drags his feet once again.

The writer is a former MK.

## Our rigid religionists

DAVID KRIVINE

particular case to serve the cause of natural justice, well and good. If not, too bad.

WE ARE BACK with the Maimonidean Controversy of 800 years ago. The Rambam saw Judaism as basic, but he thought that something could also be learned from Greek philosophy. Believers in strict Orthodoxy took the opposite view. The law, as laid down in Bible and Talmud, is binding; foreign philosophies are heresy.

The rationalists found this rigid textualism demeaning. Maimonides's son Avraham exclaimed: "They cling to the literalistic sense of biblical verses, *midrashim* and *aggadot*... How could such an impurity, so like the impurity of idol-worship, come to be in Israel?"

Those who sanctify the letter of the law regardless of its meaning abuse the Jewish religion, according to Avraham Ben-Moshe Ben-Maimon. Yet this abuse and the resulting distorted theology prevail in ultra-Orthodox circles to the present day.

True, their dogmatism has a reason. Judaism was frozen for centuries, because Jewish life was frozen in the ghettos. The secular law of the non-Jews ruled their lives outside the home and synagogue; inside, they clung to old rituals.

Since then things have changed. We are now in charge of our own destinies. There are no non-Jewish laws to fall back on. The laws that rule our lives are our laws — and we must make sure they work.

Our sages have to re-examine Halacha with a critical eye. It has been done before. In talmudic times new rules superseded old ones. Halacha was a continuously developing process. Why stop it now?

And there is plenty to criticize. In the second century the Romans were dispossessing the Jews of their birthright and it was necessary to keep land in Jewish ownership. The Romans were pagan, and the ban made

sense. But to apply it unchanged 18 centuries later in a completely different historical situation, when the Romans are a forgotten memory, is hare-brained.

Many other hare-brained pronouncements are being made lately, as ultra-Orthodoxy begins to reveal itself in its full fundamentalist frenzy. During the days of the Maimonidean Controversy, Seshet Ben-Yitzhak of Saragossa took issue with the prevailing belief in the resurrection of the body (as opposed to the immortality of the soul, in which he believed).

He asked how a soul can possibly return to a body that has perished. "Where it was buried, a house has been built, a vineyard planted or some other plants taken root, and you cannot find the earth or the dust or the worms into which the body has turned."

Seshet Ben-Yitzhak spoke in the year 1200 or thereabouts. It is hard not to contrast his sane attitude over the dead and departed with the insensate ban imposed in the 1980s on the construction of houses or vineyards over Jewish graves, however ancient and wherever located.

Halacha requires that the land remain fallow every seven years. In the age of chemical fertilizers this is no longer necessary, but questions of necessity or non-necessity do not concern the Orthodox. *Shmita* is a divine ordinance and we have to carry it out.

On the other hand, it would spell ruin to the country's farmers. How to solve the dilemma? Easy: make a phoney sale of the land to an Arab for a year. He does not have to enforce the *shmita*; so we can go on cultivating our land under the pretence that it is the Arab's. Better to duck a law by brazen deceit than to amend it.

JUDAISM is a system of ethics. This should never be forgotten. A reading of *Pirkei Avot* — a condensa-

tion of Jewish principles that figures in one of the most revered books after the Bible, viz., the *sidur* or daily prayer book — shows how standards have become confused.

The principles laid down in *Pirkei Avot* are: love peace, love your fellow-creatures, be humble, be just, love the Torah, and shun distortions of the Torah.

To put other considerations above those principles is to distort the Torah; and that is what is happening. What has Rabbi Nissim Ze'ev's call for chasing Arabs out of the Old City to do with loving your fellow-creatures?

What has the stoning of cars and buses and the burning of bus shelters to do with the pursuit of peace? What has Rabbi Druckman's demand for a pardon to Jewish terrorists and capital punishment for Arab ones to do with justice?

THE PROBLEM is not just theological, it is political. The ultra-Orthodox no longer represent the heart and core of Jewry. They must be classified as a sect. Their claim to be the sole authority on theology is invalid.

The largest Jewish community in the world lives in the U.S. The Orthodox number (according to the Jerusalem Centre for Public Affairs) only 17 per cent of registered worshippers, or about 600,000. The Conservative and Reform movements account for the remaining 83 per cent, or about 3.6 million congregants.

In Israel the Orthodox have used the political system to secure a monopolistic status. Most Israelis, both observant and secular, assume that the Orthodox rabbinate is the only rabbinic authority. They do not see any other, because the Orthodox use their control of political power to keep the others out. (Pending legislation will prevent persons converted by non-Orthodox rabbis from being recognized as Jewish.)

The ideal solution would be to take religion out of politics. The existence of religious political par-

ties distorts the democratic process, because many observant Jews who are not Orthodox vote for secular parties like Labour or the Likud.

To vote for a religious party is to vote for theocracy. Only 14 per cent of the electorate do it; yet that minority controls the entire rabbinic. The majority have nothing to say.

Unfortunately, the Orthodox will not agree to stay out of politics. An alternative would be to set up a new "Liberal Orthodox Party," supported by all observant Jews to whom fundamentalism is abhorrent.

Many Orthodox scholars take exception to the demagoguery of the political rabbis. They take exception also to the radicalism of the Reform movement. But differences over religious practices are not the issue at stake. The subject is the relation of religion to morality, and on this the great majority of believing Jews are in agreement.

A liberal Orthodox party could work out a programme based on the application of Jewish moral principles to politics. That would be enough.

The Conservatives have a key role to play, bridging as they do the gap between Orthodox and Reform. According to Rabbi Philip Spectre, executive director of the Movement for Masorti Judaism in Israel, there were three Conservative synagogues in this country in 1967, with 90 members. Today they number 41, with 10,000 congregants. They comply with the Talmud just like the Orthodox, but they seek the spirit as much as the letter of Halacha.

They use the system of rabbinical responsa to develop it further. Their aim is to make sure that the inner purpose of Halacha is kept and not distorted, despite the vast changes that have taken place in human life during the last millennium.

The Conservatives have set up a committee of talmudic experts on questions relating to religious practice in Israel. That committee is currently studying the subject raised by Rabbi Eliahu's intervention over the sale of land to non-Jews.

It is important that its response when published should be widely reported in the media. The public must be apprised of the fact that there is more than one rabbinical authority in the land — and in the world — on the interpretation of Judaism.

## READERS' LETTERS

## ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir. — May I congratulate Judy Siegel on her article on Alzheimer's Disease (January 24) and the Shaare Zedek Medical Centre project. A printing error of the "800" patients screened so far needs to be corrected to 80.

I was disturbed, however, by the omission of any mention of my significant collaborators. One could gain the impression that all the clinical and research work described is of my personal doing. This is far from the

truth. In particular I must point out my most significant collaboration with the Geriatrics Research Department of Ezra Nashim hospital, whose director, Dr. Richard Epstein, has been the initiator and principal investigator in all our biochemical blood studies.

The disease deserves intensive study, and many other departments in Israel are involved in such work. DR. YEHUDA OPPENHEIM, Shaare Zedek Medical Centre Jerusalem.

## DUAL CITIZENSHIP

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir. — To the Proud Israeli Citizen from Korazin ("Dual citizenship" — January 15). I would like to say that I am one of those individuals who do not believe in dual citizenship, so I opted out. I refused Israeli citizenship and remained an American citizen. I served in the Israel Defence Forces and I did not depart these shores during the Yom Kippur War and I

even stayed here during the Lebanese affair. I am a loyal resident of Israel, but an American citizen. The rest of my family have dual citizenship. My sons serve in the IDF.

I am a proud resident of Israel and a proud citizen of the United States of America and I am not ashamed to sign my name to this statement. EDWARD S. FORTUS, Kfar Sava.

## RADIO ADVERTISING

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir. — Radio advertising still has a long way to go in Israel. Most of the radio commercials that listeners are bombarded with hundreds of times daily have a common denominator: they assume a very low level of intelligence on the part of the consumer. Although this may be an axiom in the business, I credit the Israeli consumer with more than that.

The very worst offenders are the

banks, with one seemingly trying to outdo the other in inane and non-creative advertising. I cringe and turn off the set after a few syllables of these examples of poor taste. The advertising agencies and their customers would do well to reconsider their policy of "lowest common denominator" and inject a little taste and intelligence into their work.

DANNY ALLMAN, Kiryat Arba.

## HESELTINE'S RESIGNATION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir. — Without entering into the merits of the Westland helicopter affair in Britain, one is prompted by Mr. Michael Heseltine's resignation to think that, if Israeli ministers were to start resigning every time the cabinet took a decision that was not to their liking, then they would all be gone within a fortnight.

Now would that be such a bad thing? DAVID FARBEY, Kfar Sava.

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